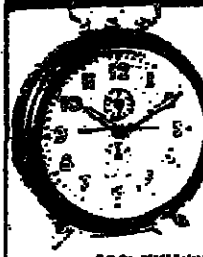


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## Storm of acrimony over Rushdie affair

# Iran breaks off ties with Britain

NICOSIA, March 7. (Reuters): Iran severed diplomatic relations with Britain today amid a storm of acrimony over the Salman Rushdie affair.

Tehran branded Britain an enemy of Islam and the British accused the Iranians of incitement to murder by ordering the author's death for blasphemy.

The break dashed hopes for an early release of three British hostages believed held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon and was a clear victory in Tehran for fundamentalist clerics opposed to closer ties with the West.

### Treachery

The Iranian Foreign Ministry attacked Britain for failing to denounce Rushdie and his prize-winning novel, *The Satanic Verses*.

"In the past two centuries Britain has been in the forefront of plots and treachery against Islam and Muslims," the ministry said in a statement announcing the break.

A British spokesman said the crisis was entirely Iran's fault. "Incitement to murder is a violation of the most elementary principles and obligations that govern relations between sovereign states."

British leaders, while acknowledging the book was offensive to Muslims, have demanded Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini lift a death order against the 41-year-old British author and his Viking Penguin publishers.

### Protection

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, in Vienna for East-West arms control talks, regretted the Iranian decision.

"When such a thing happens, I can only express regret," he told reporters, adding Moscow would not attempt to take advantage of the crisis.

Rushdie, born into an Indian Muslim family, has remained in hiding under police protection since Khomeini first ordered his death on Feb 14.

Relatives of British hostages in Lebanon said the break in relations dashed hopes for their freedom.

"This is undoubtedly a setback for us and other families who were hoping for an early release," said John Waite, cousin of kidnapped Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite.

Waite disappeared on a hostage freedom mission in Beirut in 1987. Two other Britons, Belfast teacher Brian Keenan and television journalist John McCarthy disappeared within six days of each other in April 1986.

There was also concern over the fate of Roger Cooper, a Briton held in Tehran on espionage charges.

Britain, backed by European Economic Community partners and other Western states, withdrew its five diplomats from Tehran last month and ordered Iran's envoys in London home.

Iran has sent a special envoy round Gulf Arab states to urge "a unified stand" at a forthcoming foreign ministers meeting of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Riyadh.

Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad today demanded Rushdie's trial and punishment, saying his novel was part of a conspiracy against Islam and its holy Prophet Mohammed (PBUH).

### Expression

"Freedom of expression is one thing and hurting people's religious sentiment is another," he told a religious gathering in Dhaka.

In Amman British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave sought today to reassure Muslims that despite the Iranian decision to break relations with Britain, the UK government respects Islamic faith.

"We well understand the deep offence and the outrage caused by the book (The Satanic Verses) to Muslims and we sympathise with the hurt they feel," Waldegrave told a press conference before his departure to Baghdad.



Lebanese civilians trying to put out a fire that engulfed vehicles following the car bomb blast in West Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Two killed in car bomb blast in Beirut

BEIRUT, March 7. (AP): A car bomb exploded today in a crowded street near the American University Hospital in Syrian-occupied West Beirut. Police said two women were killed and 21 people wounded.

The fourth car bomb in Lebanon this year, detonated in front of a fruit and vegetable stand at an intersection off the main Hamra commercial thoroughfare.

A woman driver, manoeuvring to park her car near the stand, was killed "instantly" when the car bomb went off, a police spokesman said.

### Wounds

"The woman's gutted body was pushed out of her car by the force of the blast," said the spokesman, who cannot be named in line with police rules.

He said the second woman, a passer-by, died later in the hospital of "serious wounds in the head."

The spokesman said ambulances were slow in reaching the blast scene because of the morning rush-hour traffic jam. The ambulances evacuated only three of the wounded and the remainder were carried to nearby hospitals.

"Civilians carried most of the casualties on their backs to the American University Hospital," a few hundred yards (metres) away, the spokesman said.

He said some of the casualties "who suffered minor cuts from glass shards were taken for treatment at the Najjar Hospital," across the street from the blast scene.

The car bombing also triggered fires in nine cars parked

near the fruit and vegetable stand and also shattered windows in surrounding buildings.

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, whose Progressive Socialist Party militia is allied with the Syrians, blamed the car bombing on the Christian cabinet of Gen. Michel Aoun.

"Those who are trying to encircle us, today sent us a bobby-trapped message (car bomb)," Jumblatt told a news conference at his family's ancestral palace in the Shouf mountain town of Mukhtara, southeast of Beirut.

### Efforts

Jumblatt was referring to efforts by Aoun's helicopter gunships and gunboats to prevent merchant ships from docking at illegal port facilities run by the PSP and other militias along Lebanon's coastline.

The air-and-sea patrols in coastal waters started yesterday, ignoring rocket fire by Jumblatt's militia based near Jiye port, south of Beirut.

Aoun's move, which aims at choking off the main revenues of private armies, has provoked objections from Syrian-backed Muslim leaders who consider it an attempt to restrict their operations.

Muslims refuse to recognise Aoun's military cabinet, appointed by outgoing President Amin Gemayel last September after Parliament failed to elect his successor. They pledged allegiance to the Muslim cabinet of acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss who governed under Gemayel.

An eye witness said the explosion blew out windows in

(Continued on Page 2)

## Waldegrave backs UN role in Mideast peace talks

AMMAN, March 7. (AP): A senior British official today sharply criticised Israeli leaders and said United Nations Security Council members might help prepare for Arab-Israeli peace talks -- a suggestion made recently by Soviet officials.

"We think that there may be preparatory work that can be done among the five permanent members of the Security Council," said William Waldegrave, Britain's minister of state for foreign affairs.

Waldegrave praised the Soviet Union's new Middle East policy but said its proposal for a special UN envoy for the region was premature.

"We do find current Soviet diplomacy to be much more positive than it used to be in this region," he told a news conference in Amman.

### Trouble

In the past the Soviet Union had tried to create trouble for Western interests in the Middle East, he said.

He said proposals by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze for a role for the UN Security Council's five permanent members in organising an international conference were not far from European Economic Community thinking.

Shevardnadze toured the Middle East last month, briskly reaffirming Soviet interest in regional peace-making.

His new attitude "seems to us much more moderate and reasonable," said Waldegrave.

He was speaking on his second

day in Jordan after a visit to Israel, where he criticised the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Israeli tactics against a Palestinian uprising.

Formal and informal consultations among the five on a UN resolution that helped achieve last year's ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war could be a model for Middle East peace efforts, he said.

He voiced guarded optimism that an international conference would eventually be held because Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip was unjust and unsustainable.

### Aimed

He described talks he held in Jerusalem with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens as a "complete non-meeting of minds."

But Britain and its European partners aimed to support Israeli moderates and persuade Israel to drop its opposition to a UN-sponsored conference.

Waldegrave did not meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Israel.

### Refusal

"My visit to Nablus (on the West Bank) under curfew brought home to me forcibly that the territories are indeed under complete and thorough military occupation."

Waldegrave said the Israeli leadership's refusal to consider a Palestinian state masks a long-standing philosophy that the West Bank is "an inherent part of Zion."

## Baker, Shevardnadze differ on Mideast

VIENNA, March 7. (AP): US Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze agreed today that Baker would visit Moscow in May to discuss the possibility of a superpower summit.

Baker also told Shevardnadze that US President George Bush's administration would review its strategic nuclear arms policy, which could lead to a resumption of negotiations to slash missile arsenals.

"I am pleased with this meeting," Shevardnadze told reporters outside the residence of US Ambassador to Austria Henry Grunwald. "I believe ... that there will be good co-operation between us. Maybe this is the most important conclusion."

Shevardnadze said the Moscow meeting with Baker would be used to discuss the superpowers' future agenda, which both men said would be broadened to include global topics, such as terrorism and drug abuse.

"We will also discuss the prospects of a summit meeting," Shevardnadze said.

But Baker, speaking after Shevardnadze, also stressed some differences between the two sides.

He objected to the Soviet proposal to try to curb NATO and Warsaw Pact battlefield nuclear missiles in new arms control negotiations that open on Thursday. He also spoke against a Soviet drive for a Middle East peace conference.

### Objection

"The situation cries out for some hard work on the ground," Baker said in explaining his objection to the Soviet call for Israel and Palestinians to meet at an international conference. "We should be very careful that we don't pre-empt what could be more promising opportunities down the line."

Baker also said he took issue with what he called recent "Soviet posturing on Iran." Shevardnadze recently completed a Middle East swing and visited Iran, whose relations with the West have chilled over the Ayatollah Khomeini's death threat against Salman Rushdie. British author of "The Satanic Verses."

Baker and Shevardnadze met for 67 minutes, accompanied only by their interpreters. Their delegations then joined them for a further hour in what Baker termed "a very positive atmosphere."

## Massive flare from sun affects communications

WASHINGTON, March 7. (AP): A massive flare, called the most intense since 1984, erupted yesterday on the eastern edge of the sun, sending a burst of radiation that interfered with a navigation system and some communications, federal officials said.

One official said there was a 50-50 chance that a burst of high-energy particles from the flare will cause a "proton event," perhaps affecting some aircraft communication and television signals.

In Boulder, Colorado, forecasters at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's space environment services centre said the flare was detected at 9.05 am (1405 GMT) by instruments aboard the agency's GOES satellites. Forecaster Joe Kunches said the flare saturated instruments on the satellites, indicating an intensity beyond their measuring capacity. He estimated the solar eruption was the most powerful since April 1984.

## US grants visa

WASHINGTON, March 7. (Reuters): Feisal Al Hussein, a West Bank Palestinian, has been granted a visa to attend a New York conference on the Middle East, a State Department spokesman said today.

## DAY BY DAY

HOW is one to describe the action or inaction of the environmental protection authorities in respect to the pollution of lands near chalets?

Unfortunately, some chalets use sewage water for irrigating gardens situated in front of their chalets.

One need not stretch his imagination — or his nostrils either — to discern the putrid odours that emanate when the wind blows.

Consequently, people who come for a breath of fresh air at their chalets are once again assailed with the bad sewage smells they have tried to leave behind in the city.

**Zahed Matar**

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## آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- ایران نے برطانیہ سے سفارتی تعلقات توڑ دیے
- بحار کے ایک وزیر نے استعفیٰ دے دیا
- تبت میں مظاہرین کے بعد مارشل لاء کاغذاں
- انڈین ایکسپریس کے دفاتر پر چھاپے
- مقبوضہ علاقوں میں پرتشدد مظاہرے
- مجاہدین نے افغان طیارہ تباہ کر دیا

## WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with light to moderate to fresh southeasterly wind.  
State of sea: moderate to rough  
High water: 12.48 pm  
Low water: 6.40 am 6.45 pm  
Sunrise: 6.06 am  
Sunset: 5.52 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 27°C 81°F  
Ahmad: 25°C 77°F  
Falka: 25°C 77°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 12°C 54°F  
Ahmad: 18°C 64°F  
Falka: 17°C 63°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 29°C 84°F  
Ahmad: 26°C 79°F  
Falka: 26°C 79°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 52 per cent  
Ahmad: 72 per cent  
Falka: 75 per cent

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## GCC welcomes formation of two new Arab groups

RIYADH, March 7. (KUNA): Foreign ministers of the GCC states today ended a two-day meeting with a pledge to support the UN chief's efforts aimed to consolidate the Iraq-Iran ceasefire and bring peace to the Gulf region.

A statement issued here today, by the GCC ministerial council expressed keenness to continue contacts with Iraq and Iran and the permanent members of the UN Security Council to make a breakthrough in the Gulf peace talks.

The council welcomed the formation of the Arab Co-operation Council comprising Iraq, Yemen Arab Republic, Jordan and Egypt and the Arab Maghreb Union, whose members are Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania.

The council reiterated its keenness in preserving Lebanon's unity and sovereignty.

The council appreciated efforts made by the Arab League six-member committee to end the Lebanese crisis and urged different factions in the country to respond positively to these efforts.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed returned home today after attending the meeting. Sheikh Sabah said the meeting was a "good opportunity" to discuss the latest developments at the regional, Arab and international levels.

## Six seamen missing after ship sinks

NEW DELHI, March 7. (Reuters): Six seamen were missing after a ship sank when it was in collision with another vessel in the Arabian Sea off western India, officials said today.

Twelve crewmen were rescued from the Island Star which sank after the collision on Sunday about 60 miles off the Indian coast near the island of Androth. Indian news agencies said.

The second vessel, the Ilahi, was damaged but made its way to Androth under its own power.

## Trawler hit

DUBLIN, March 7. (Reuters): Irish environmentalists today rejected a British denial that one of its submarines hit a Belgian trawler which sank without sending distress signals.

## Pull out troops first, Tehran demands

# Iran will not allow Iraq to use Shatt

NICOSIA, March 7. (Reuters): Iran said today it will not allow Iraq to use the disputed Shatt Al Arab border river before Baghdad withdraws its remaining forces from Iranian territory.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larjani as saying Iraq must withdraw from 2,000 sq km (800 sq miles) of Iranian border areas it still occupied.

"Iran will not step back from its principled stance in this regard," Larjani told a gathering of soldiers in Ahvaz near the Gulf war fronts today.

An Iraqi official told reporters on Sunday that work had begun to clear war debris from parts of the Shatt near Basra, Iraq's biggest port made unusable by the eight-year-long war between Iran and Iraq.

He said salvage workers did not operate in a section of the Shatt which runs along the two countries border and is in dispute. The disputed stretch is the

waterway's last 190 kms (120 miles) before it joins the Gulf.

Iran says the 1975 Algiers accord drawing the frontier down the middle of the waterway, which it calls the Arvand River, still holds. Iraq rejects the pact, saying a new agreement is needed to restore Arab sovereignty over the whole river.

The border dispute underlies the obstacles blocking peace talks which started under United Nations supervision five days after a ceasefire halted the war last Aug 20.

Larjani said Baghdad was likely to prolong the next round of face-to-face negotiations, due to start in New York later this month, but Tehran would not budge from its position on priority of an Iraqi troop pull-back.

Iran's Planning and Budget Minister Masoud Raghani Zanjani said today the budget for the next Iranian year beginning on March 21 allowed for emergency funding if fighting with Iraq broke out again.



Relatives grieve at the bedside of one of the victims who died after drinking home-made liquor. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Raid on Indian Express office

BOMBAY, March 7. (AP): Government tax agents today raided and searched the Bombay headquarters of the Indian Express, a national newspaper that has been highly critical of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

About 30 agents from the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence crowded the Bombay headquarters of the newspaper, according to S.C. Patil,

the agency's director. He said agents were searching for evidence of tax violations.

The Express, India's largest English-language daily with a circulation of 1.1 million, frequently carries articles, editorials and cartoons critical of Rajiv and the ruling Congress Party.

Hari Jaishankar, editor of the

(Continued on Page 2)

## Four more die

# Resign, opposition asks Gujarat chief minister

AHMEDABAD, March 7. (UPI): Opposition lawmakers today accused Gujarat's ruling Congress (I) Party of maintaining links with bootleggers and demanded that Chief Minister Amarsinh Chaudhury resign following the deaths of at least 136 people from lethal moonshine.

Four new deaths were reported today by police from among more than 350 people hospitalized in the city of Baroda with toxic poisoning caused by the consumption of "lathra," an illegal concoction made from methyl alcohol, which paralyzes the central nervous system.

Legislators in the state assembly in the capital of Ahmedabad held an acrimonious debate on the tragedy, the worst of its kind in the history of the state, where bootlegging has flourished as a major criminal racket since the imposition of prohibition in 1960.

"Bootlegging is an organised crime, patronised by the ruling party members," charged Chiman Patel, a Janata Party lawmaker, echoing allegations by other opponents of the Gujarat unit of Prime Minister

Rajiv Gandhi's party.

"If you have any dignity, you must resign," Patel thundered at Chaudhury, whose party has ruled Gujarat since 1980.

Jaspal Singh, another opposition legislator and former police commissioner of Baroda, described the city's law officers as "criminals in police uniforms."

Chaudhury defended his administration's efforts to stamp out bootlegging, accusing opposition parties of trying to take political advantage of the tragedy.

"Liquor tragedies are nothing new to Gujarat," Chaudhury said, asserting that deaths from illegal moonshine also occurred while the Congress (I) Party was out of power.

The Congress (I) Party lawmakers handily defeated by 67 to 25 votes an opposition motion to censure the government.

Links between members of Gujarat's political parties, police and so-called "liquor barons" have long been alleged and were substantiated by a report by a special commission of inquiry that was completed in 1983, but withheld from publication until 1985.



## FAA fines for security lapses top \$1 million

WASHINGTON, March 7. (AP): Aviation security has improved, but federal agents still managed to slip 156 weapons through airport security resulting in \$1.18 million in fines against domestic airlines, the US Federal Aviation Administration announced.

The agency said the detection rate for all airlines checked was 93.1 per cent, compared to 88.2 per cent in July 1988 and 78.9 per cent in the first such tests of the system in 1987.

In a separate US Transportation Department report yesterday, airlines showed improvements in the number of flight delays, baggage problems and passengers with reservations who were "bumped" off flights.

Fines against airlines in the weapons tests resulted when airport security failed to detect fake guns, knives, explosives or other weapons in hand-carried luggage or in the clothing of federal agents.

The largest fines were \$186,000 against American Airlines for 24 alleged violations, \$151,000 against Continental Airlines for 20, \$136,000 against Eastern for 18 and \$132,000 against USAir for 15. Other fines ranged from \$1,000 for single violations to \$92,000.

FAA fines for security lapses have totalled nearly \$4 million since the programme began two years ago, the FAA said. About 30 airlines have been cited for 557 detection failures.

The agency said it ran more than 6,800 checks of airline security systems during 1988. It said the latest fines resulted from incidents over the past year.

Under FAA rules, airlines are responsible for screening passengers and their carry-on luggage. At airports where security is contracted by several airlines, each carrier is held responsible for any failure.

### Rail-link

LONDON, March 7. (UPI): The high-speed rail-link between London and the Channel tunnel, set to open in 1993, will run for most of its length underground, the *Financial Times* reported today.

## Weather blamed for 20 deaths

# Major storm blasts Missouri

NEW YORK, March 7. (AP): A vast weather system dumping up to 16 inches (40 centimetres) of snow virtually shut down eastern Missouri yesterday in one of that area's worst March storms on record, and it also blew snow all the way to the northeast and caused flooding in Appalachia.

Hundreds of schools were closed by snow or high water in 10 states and travellers were snowbound in airports and in towns along highways.

The Missouri legislature cancelled and this morning's sessions because of the storm.

### Damage

Rain, sleet and snow pelted the east, with bad weather blamed for at least 20 deaths, including three people who collapsed after shovelling snow.

The storm caused millions of dollars in damage to poultry operations in a four-state region as poultry houses collapsed under the weight of the snow.

The bad weather also forced

President George Bush to cancel a trip today to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and Wilmington, Delaware.

A storm system over North Carolina brought rain and snow to the Atlantic seaboard early today. Snow extended from the mid-Atlantic coast to southern New England and the Ohio valley.

Rain caused flooding across southern West Virginia, closing roads in 14 counties and in Tennessee, about 120 families were forced to evacuate from along the swollen Cumberland and Harpeth rivers.

### Snowfalls

The heaviest snowfalls — 16 inches (40 centimetres) — were recorded in parts of Missouri and Oklahoma. Up to 10 inches (25 centimetres) covered the Laurel mountains of western Pennsylvania yesterday.

The Missouri legislature cancelled yesterday's and this morning's sessions because of the

storm. Nine inches (23 centimetres) of snow snarled traffic in Tulsa, Oklahoma, prompting even the intrepid US postal service to call off most deliveries yesterday.

The St. Louis area received 11 inches (28 centimetres) of snow, the third largest accumulation for a 24-hour period in March since record-keeping began in 1874.

Government officials said reports indicated that as many as 700 poultry houses in southwest Missouri, northwest Arkansas, northeast Oklahoma and southeast Kansas were damaged.

### Disaster

"This could be the single biggest disaster ever to hit the poultry industry," said Lynch Butler, President of Simmons Industries Inc., of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, which processes about 1.5 million chickens a week.

"We've suffered major losses in summer heat waves, but I'm not aware of a single larger loss in

terms of property and I've been in this business for 20 years."

Weather-related deaths included one in Georgia, five in Oklahoma, two in Ohio, one in Arkansas, two in Alabama, from a fire started by lightning, and nine in Missouri.

Ice pavement and blowing snow hampered travel in many areas. The weather slowed commuters in the New York City area who had thought they were home free yesterday after a judge barred "sympathy" walkouts by railroad workers in support of striking Eastern Airlines workers.

The weather service said 2.7 inches (6.8 centimetres) fell yesterday in Newark, New Jersey, breaking the record for the date of 2.4 inches (6 centimetres) set in 1943.

At Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, where cancelled flights cut air traffic by 50 per cent on Sunday, travellers were able to leave by last night.

## Scowcroft among those mentioned if Senate rejects Tower

WASHINGTON, March 7. (Reuters): President Bush has vowed he is not even considering an alternative to John Tower as his defence secretary but other candidates for the Pentagon are emerging in case the Senate turns the President down.

One prominent name mentioned in political circles is retired Air Force Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft, 63, Bush's National Security Adviser and a trusted friend.

Scowcroft, it is suggested, would go to the Pentagon and Bush would pick Tower for Scowcroft's job which does not require Senate approval.

Congressional aides argue that Bush needs someone like Scowcroft who could step easily into the Pentagon role. The Pentagon has been officially without a leader since Bush took office on Jan 20 although Deputy Defence Secretary William Taft has been running the department.

The fight over Tower, whose nomination is imperilled in the

Democratic-dominated Senate by allegations of past heavy drinking, sexual advances to women and close links with defence contractors, has delayed appointments for all but one of the other top defence posts.

Donald Atwood has been nominated to replace Taft but his nomination can be considered by the Senate only after it has ratified the appointment of a defence secretary. The assistant and deputy assistant secretary and the civilian secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force have also still to be named.

Tower yesterday won his first declared Democratic supporter in the Senate when Alabama Senator Howell Heflin said he would vote for the former Texas senator's nomination as defence secretary.

True to the official line that Bush is not even thinking of anyone but 63-year-old Tower, the White House denied Scowcroft was a choice for the defence job.

"We aren't thinking of fall-

back positions," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said yesterday. "We're still supporting the candidacy of Senator Tower."

### Rumour

But White House protestations have little effect on the Washington rumour mill and another name bandied about is that of Chicago investment banker Donald Rumsfeld, 56, who served as defence secretary under former President Gerald Ford between 1975 and 1977.

Others include Jack Edwards of Alabama, a popular ex-Congressman who was chairman of a commission studying base closings Norman Augustine, chairman of Martin Marietta Aerospace Corp, Bobby Inman, former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, former Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis Paul O'Neill, chairman and chief executive officer of Alcoa and Democrat James Schlesinger, a former defence secretary and CIA director.

## Satellite launched into orbit

KOUROU, French Guiana, March 7. (UPI): A French Ariane 4 rocket successfully boosted Japan's first communications satellite into orbit today along with a new TV weather station in the European space programme's 29th flight.

Running six days late because of a strike and mechanical problems, the 195-foot (60 m) Ariane 4, making only its third flight, roared to life at 6:29 pm (23:29 GMT) and vaulted away from the European Space Agency's jungle launch complex.

Perched atop the rocket in a protective nose cone were JCSAT-1, Japan's first commercial communications satellite, and MOP-1, the first of three new meteorological satellites operated by the European Space Agency.

## Opposition groups mourn 1,000th day of emergency rule in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, March 7. (Reuters): South African opposition groups marked the 1,000th day of nationwide emergency rule today with a call for the immediate abolition of government powers for crushing political dissent.

"Emergency rule is being conducted as a reign of terror," said Wynand Malan, leader of the white opposition National Democratic Movement.

"Had the government been serious about negotiations (with black opposition groups), they would by now have lifted the state of emergency and the ban on political activists," he said.

Civil rights leader Mohammed Valli told a rally that emergency laws should be scrapped immediately, saying they had failed to break anti-apartheid resistance.

### Sweeping

"The state of emergency has been an albatross around the government's neck," Valli told the Johannesburg rally.

The ruling National Party (NP) imposed a state of emergency on June 12, 1986, in a bid to counter a wave of violent opposition to its apartheid policies which was sweeping the country's black townships.

Thousands of South Africans have since been detained without trial, the activities of dozens of civil rights groups have been severely restricted and press censorship has gagged a string of newspapers and periodicals.

"Emergency rule has lasted 1,000 days too long. Our view is that it should be lifted forthwith," said Colin Eglin, former leader of the white liberal Progressive Federal Party. "It is very distressing to think that it might last another 1,000 days."

Political observers doubt Pretoria will relinquish the emergency powers despite the appointment in January of cautiously reformist F.W. de Klerk to succeed the ailing President P.W. Botha as NP leader.

Law and Order Minister

Adriaan Vlok has repeatedly ignored calls to relax emergency rule, pointing out that township disturbances had declined since mid-1986 together with "unrest-related incidents," Pretoria's term for political violence.

Violence is nowadays concentrated within the black communities of Natal province, where rival groups battle for political control of the townships.

### Assertions

Police today reported one of the worst recent examples of black-against-black violence in Natal when a gunman burst into a house near Pietermaritzburg and killed four people, including a 12-year-old girl.

Despite assertions that he has overcome the problem, Vlok will not say the danger of insurgency is over. "Revolutionary potential has remained at a high level," he said recently.

One of the most serious challenges to the state of emergency arose in January when hundreds of detainees held without trial, some having been in jail for the entire duration of emergency rule, went on hunger strike.

They were supported by lawyers, churchmen and union leaders, many of whom staged hunger strikes in sympathy.

Vlok eventually agreed to release 300 of an estimated 1,000 detainees after an urgent review of all cases.

### Measure

The government has a measure of support within opposition groups for a continuation of emergency rule.

The ultra-rightist Conservative Party, which scores NP attempts to reform apartheid and supports strict race segregation, is fervently in favour of emergency powers.

"As soon as the state of emergency is lifted the violence starts all over again. We have no assurance from anyone who is responsible for the terrorist onslaught that it will not start again," a party spokesman said today.

## Walesa holds talks with minister

WARSAW, March 7. (AP): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa and Interior Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak held talks today for the second time in a week to try and settle issues that have delayed agreement on the legalisation of the trade union, a government spokesman said.

A spokesman at the Solidarity press office declined to comment on the meeting, saying an announcement would be issued later.

The historic two-month-old talks between the government and the opposition are aimed at producing a compromise in which the government would legalise Solidarity and other groups banned in the December 1981 martial-law crackdown.

In exchange, the opposition would agree to participate as a minority in Parliament and endorse a programme of political and economic reforms.

But agreement has been delayed by differences on several issues that Walesa and Kiszczak hoped to clear up in their meeting today, the spokesman said.

The two men also met on Thursday and agreed that the talks should be speeded up.

## Hawaii wants to wipe out cultivation of marijuana

HONOLULU, March 7. (AP): Hawaii wants the federal government to provide millions of dollars to help wipe out the state's biggest industry — the cultivation of marijuana.

"Hawaii's marijuana industry began as a backyard operation, but in only a few years mushroomed into the largest industry in Hawaii and one of the largest businesses in the entire nation," State Attorney General Warren Price said in a letter to William Bennett, director of the office of National Drug Control Policy.

Hawaii's potent "maui wowie" and "kona gold" marijuana commands about \$3,800 a pound on the West Coast, authorities say.

As a result, the total street value of the islands' annual marijuana crop is potentially over \$10 billion, according to a report prepared by Price's office. Hawaii's tourist industry provides an estimated 7 billion dollars to the economy, followed by military spending at \$2.5 billion.

"Significant federal assistance will be necessary to eliminate Hawaii's marijuana industry,

otherwise it will continue to flourish and be a main supplier to the other states," Price said in the March 1 letter.

Price is proposing a new approach aimed at stopping the tons of marijuana being shipped out of Hawaii, instead of concentrating solely on locating and destroying marijuana patches. He also wants to try to prosecute the growers, instead of just pulling up their plants.

The eradication effort in Hawaii now costs over \$1 million a year, but it apparently is not reducing, much less eliminating, the marijuana industry, the report said.

Hawaii probably is the largest marijuana-producing state in the nation, despite being one of the smallest in geographic size, Price said.

Most of the Marijuana is grown in the rain forests of Hawaii island, known as the Big Island, where combined eradication programmes in 1987 resulted in the destruction of 1.7 million plants, compared to less than 200,000 plants seized in California that year.

Statewide, 1.9 million plants were destroyed in Hawaii in 1987.

## Norway reaches apparent dead end in hunt for heavy water

OSLO, March 7. (Reuters): Norway seems to have reached a dead end in its efforts to unravel what happened to several shipments of heavy water, which can be used to make atomic bombs. The Foreign Ministry said today that a Swiss court last week turned down a request by Norwegian police to question key witnesses in connection with the alleged illegal rerouting of 15 tonnes of heavy water to India in 1983.

There has been no progress in investigations into two other cases involving shipments to Romania and Israel, government officials say.

### Rerouted

"We have currently reached a dead end in Switzerland and must decide what to do now," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Signe Romundseth said.

Norway said in November that the heavy water, which can be used to make plutonium, was rerouted to Bombay from Basel in Switzerland in defiance of international regulations. Whether Bombay was its final destination is still uncertain.

The Norwegian request for a court order compelling employees of the Swiss firm Orda AG, which was allegedly involved in the shipment, to attend police interviews was

rejected because of a statute of limitations.

"Should it be impossible to get any further in Switzerland, the next step would probably be for Norwegian police to get in touch with Indian authorities and ask for assistance," she said.

Norway had heard nothing from the Indian government, despite repeated requests for help since November. "But we have not given up, we will try every possible way to find out what happened to the water," she added.

### Disprove

Norway is also probing what happened to 12.5 tonnes of heavy water it sold to Romania in 1986 for use in two atomic reactors that have not yet come into use. Oslo had asked Romania to disprove media reports that the country had secretly resold the water, also known as deuterium oxide, to Israel or to another country.

"These reports have not been disproved," Romundseth said, declining further comment.

Norway, which has exported heavy water to 35 countries since it became a leading producer in the 1950s, insists that it should be used for peaceful purposes only. India has refused to sign a Nuclear Non-proliferation

Treaty aimed at stopping the spread of nuclear weapons. It denies having atomic bombs but carried out its first nuclear explosion in 1974, saying it was for peaceful purposes.

It is illegal to supply the country with more than one tonne of heavy water and the Indian government has said it has not imported any water from Norway.

"We are somewhat surprised that Indian authorities did not know of such a large shipment of heavy water," public prosecutor Anstein Gjengedal said.

The consignment of Norwegian heavy water rerouted to Bombay was sold to the Dusseldorf-based Rohstoff Einfuhr GmbH by industrial giant Norsk Hydro A/S, which has manufactured some 450 tonnes of the water since the early 1950s.

### Hoped

"We wanted to question people working for Orda AG in Switzerland, which bought the water from Rohstoff Einfuhr and transported it to India," Gjengedal said. "We hoped they could name the receiver (of the cargo) in India," he added.

Norway has still not resolved a long-running dispute with Israel over 20 tonnes of water sold to the country in 1959.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Rock stars

MOSCOW, March 7. (AP): Hundreds of enthusiastic young Soviets braved a snowstorm, steel barricades and police on crowd control and lined up outside record stores yesterday to try to buy a new album by more than two dozen of the West's biggest rock stars.

The hoopla was especially great on Kalinin Prospekt outside the Melodiya store, where British rocker Peter Dinklage and Annie Lennox of the Eurythmics autographed copies of "Breakthrough." A police guard was posted at the doorway, and a steel barricade was set up on the sidewalk as Soviets massed.

### PLO official

AMMAN, March 7. (AP): Prime Minister Zaid Rifai today met with a PLO official and discussed efforts to reach a settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute, state-run Jordan radio reported.

A PLO official in Amman who spoke on condition of anonymity said Jordan wanted to brief PLO executive committee member Mahmoud Abbas on its reasons for opposing a PLO call for the Arab states on the front line with Israel to meet and discuss ways to convene a UN-sponsored peace conference.

### Radiation safety

MOSCOW, March 7. (UPI): Dockworkers in another two Soviet far eastern cities, citing concerns over radiation safety, have refused to service the newly launched atomic-powered container ship Sevomport, in an unprecedented anti-nuclear labour protest now affecting four major ports, a Soviet newspaper said today.

The daily Sovetskaya Rossiya newspaper said the dockworkers' actions, backed by their local city Soviets or councils, which is keeping the Sevomport idle at anchor, is costing the Merchant Marine Ministry roubles \$4,000 (\$86,400 per day).

### Military denies

KHARTOUM, March 7. (Reuters): Sudan's military commanders denied yesterday they had made promises to Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi which could defuse a two-week old showdown with the civilian government.

"The armed forces are committed to constitutional legitimacy and did not give anyone pledges on any topic under debate at present," a forces general command statement said.

The Army generals are angry at lack of backing in their battle against southern rebels in a civil war largely centred on the implementation of strict Islamic sharia law.

## Raid on Indian Express

(Continued from Page 1)

Bombay edition, said: "Editorial work has not been affected."

Senior newspaper executives, speaking on condition of anonymity, said accountants and other business managers were interrogated by tax agents.

One official said the raid may have been triggered by information provided by a disgruntled manager who was dismissed.

Today's raids were not the first against the newspaper.

Agents raided the newspaper in January 1987, shortly after publication of a series of articles alleging a link between the prime minister and a kickback scandal involving arms contracts with foreign companies.

Express editors charged the 1987 raid was politically motivated and could not have been carried out without Rajiv's permission.

In March 1986, a house in New Delhi used by the newspaper's chairman was raided after the newspaper published a leaked copy of a letter from the then President Zail Singh that was critical of Rajiv.

Two killed in car bomb...

(Continued from Page 1)

the nearby 12-storey Estral Centre office building which houses printing presses of the French-language daily newspaper L'Orient-Le Jour and the Beirut office of the Kuwait News Agency.

A telephone operator at the Cavalier Hotel, who refused to be named, said panicky motorists trying to get away from the area caused several accidents.

An eyewitness at the Estral building, who also refused to be named, said: "It was a busy morning, like it usually is everyday in this street."

"I was having my coffee. First I felt the glass tumbling down, then I heard the blast."

"I looked out of the window and saw fire blazing in several cars, a corpse in the middle of the street and people running in all directions," he added.

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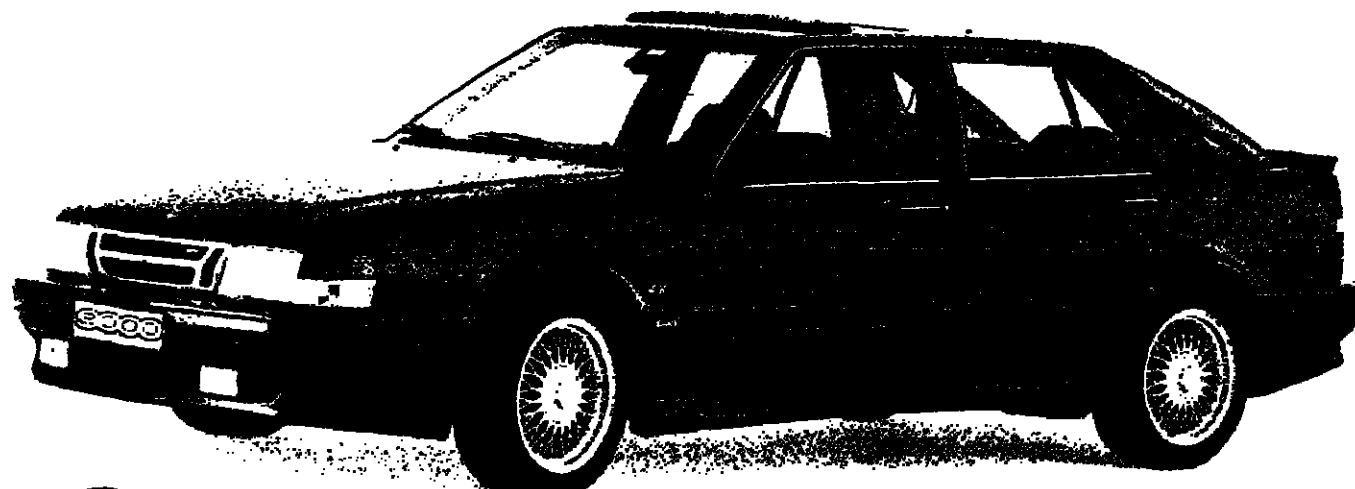
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## Terrorists could get chemical weapons

STOCKHOLM, March 7. (Reuters): Terrorist organisations seem certain to acquire chemical, biological and even nuclear weapons sooner or later, a leading world expert on terrorism said today.

"It's not a question of if but of when it will happen. It's just a matter of time," said Yonah Alexander, director of the Institute for Studies in International Terrorism at the State University of New York.

"We have to face the danger that a terrorist incident could provoke a nuclear confrontation and both the United States and Soviet Union are aware of this," he told an international conference on terrorism in Stockholm.

Robert Bentley, counter-terrorism adviser to the US State Department, told the conference that after a period in the mid-1980s when governments appeared to gain the upper hand, terror groups had emerged as a new threat.

**Capabilities**  
Recent attacks such as the downing of a Pan Am jet over the Scottish village of Lockerbie last December demonstrated that terrorists had dramatically increased their technological capabilities and operational sophistication.

"Micro-electronics have revolutionised bomb technology and created new threats," he said.

There was also the danger that states like Libya which acquired a chemical weapon capability could pass it on to terrorist groups.

"A Libya acquires the capability for chemical weapons production on a large scale, that spectre becomes more real," Bentley said.

Alexander said, without quoting a source, that there was evidence that terrorist groups had sent members to study chemistry and nuclear physics.

"Even if no nuclear device were exploded, the fact that terrorists could penetrate a nuclear facility and threaten it would cause a great deal of panic," he said.

Bentley and Alexander agreed that terrorist groups were spreading into new areas, establishing themselves in Asia and Africa. "Middle East" groups could already rely on a network of "sleeping agents" in Western Europe who could be activated at short notice.

Alexander said his institute had logged 3,714 incidents which it defined as terrorist last year, a rise of around 600 over 1979.

## Tamil group to boycott opening of Parliament

COLOMBO, March 7. (Reuters): A Tamil opposition group said today it would boycott the opening of Sri Lanka's Parliament on Thursday.

"Whether we will continue to keep away from Parliament will depend on the desire of the government to create conducive conditions," said Shankar Rajee, spokesman for the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation (EROS).

Speaking at a news conference, Rajee called for a permanent ceasefire in Sri Lanka's north and east and the release from prison of about 140 suspected Tamil militants.

EROS and its allies, contesting as an independent group, took 13 seats in the 225-member Parliament last month's elections, making it the largest Tamil group. The United National Party (UNP) was returned to power with 125 seats.

**Talks**  
Rajee said an EROS delegation held talks yesterday with President Ranasinghe Premadasa on Tamil issues, adding that the talks would continue.

EROS, a former rebel group, accepted an Indo-Sri Lankan peace agreement in 1987 aimed at ending the Tamil revolt.

Rajee said no peace could return to the north and east until the dominant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebel group was included in a peace agreement.

About 45,000 Indian troops have been deployed in the north and east under the 1987 pact to disarm the Tigers.

## Armenians unhappy

MOSCOW, March 7. (Reuters): More than 50 Armenian refugees, unhappy with official plans to force them to return to Soviet Azerbaijan, gathered at a government office today to demand a meeting with Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov.



The mother of a victim who died aboard a South Korean airliner walks outside a Seoul courtroom. (Reuters wirephoto)

## N. Korean bomber pleads guilty

SEOUL, March 7. (Reuters): A confessed North Korean saboteur pleaded guilty today to blowing up a South Korean airliner and killing all 115 people aboard, but her trial was stopped when bereaved relatives screamed for her blood.

Wailing women, dressed in mourning white, shouted curses and demanded the death penalty for former child actress Kim Hyon-Hui, 27.

Kim confessed on Seoul Television in January 1988 that she and a male agent planted explosives aboard the Korean Air Lines Boeing 707 on the orders of Kim Jon-Il, son and designated heir of North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung.

**Agent**  
In the crowded courtroom today, Kim, occasionally dabbing at her eyes with a handkerchief, pleaded guilty to state prosecutors' charges of murder and destruction of the airliner on November 29, 1987.

The courtroom then erupted. "I'm here to kill you," "bring back my son" and "bring back my husband," the relatives yelled at her, stopping the judge from resuming the trial after a 90-minute lunch break.

The protest lasted more than an hour before two women were ejected and order was restored.

In the morning session, Kim had told the court she was recruited as a spy in 1978 while studying Japanese at the Pyongyang College of Foreign Language Studies.

From 1980 she began more than seven years of training in anti-South Korean activities, learning to pass herself off as a Japanese and also studying Chinese and Russian.

Kim said she and a male colleague she first met in 1984 received written orders to blow up the plane, allegedly from Kim Jon-Il. North Korea has denied any involvement.

The pair left the doomed airliner during a Gulf stopover, and the Seoul-bound flight disappeared a few hours later near the Burmese coast.

After detention for carrying false passports by Bahrain authorities, both swallowed cyanide capsules. The man died but Kim survived to be extradited to Seoul.

Kim said the bombing aimed to discourage foreign participation in the 1988 Seoul Olympics which Pyongyang boycotted.

## Move follows riots in Tibet

# Martial law declared in Lhasa

BEIJING, March 7. (Reuters): China today declared martial law in Lhasa, following three days of pro-independence rioting in the Tibetan capital.

In its main evening news bulletin, state radio said martial law would take effect from midnight today to protect public security and property in the city.

The radio said that martial law was declared by the State Council, the top governing body, "because constant disturbances by a small minority of separatists have seriously endangered social order."

The announcement was made after crowds of Tibetans staged a third day of anti-Chinese protests in Lhasa while truckloads of armed police skirted the area of the demonstrations without intervening.

**Killing**  
Officially China says 12 people including one policeman were killed in clashes on Sunday and Monday. Tibetans believe more than 60 are dead and doctors put the figure around 30 with more

than 100 casualties.

State radio said the State Council had decided to impose martial law "to preserve social order and to protect personal safety and property and prevent encroachment on public property."

The government of the autonomous region of Tibet would take concrete steps to implement the measures, it said.

A public security official in Lhasa contacted by telephone shortly before the announcement told Reuters he had received no instructions on any special security measures to be taken.

**Film**  
State television later broadcast the first film of the riots in the Tibetan capital, showing crowds of angry Tibetans gathering in the streets on Sunday.

Youths were seen stoning a police station. Ransacked government buildings and charred remains of stereos and bicycles were shown as well as firemen fighting a blaze.

"The scope of this latest riot is bigger than disturbances of past years. More people have taken part and the area affected is larger," said the People's Daily in a front-page report from the Tibetan capital.

Lhasa residents said the latest violence was possibly the most serious since March 10, 1959 — the start of a mass uprising crushed by communist troops.

China maintains it has ruled Tibet for centuries but Tibetans disagree. Communist soldiers entered Lhasa in 1950 to assert Beijing's claim to sovereignty.

China has tried a more conciliatory line in recent years in an effort to win back the confidence of Tibet's two million mainly Buddhist people. But it has been unable to check sporadic violence.

**Authority**  
The official New China News Agency said the order had been signed by Premier Li Peng. It said the order was issued in accordance with the Chinese constitution which gives the

State Council the authority to decide on the enforcement of martial law.

The clause in the 1982 constitution to which the order referred does not define martial law and it was not clear whether a curfew would be imposed on the city.

Western diplomats in Beijing quoted reports that one Tibetan family had been killed during violence in Lhasa last night but they said these reports could not be independently confirmed.

Crowds of more than 1,000 and joined by young children, old women and monks, took part in the unrest on Sunday and Monday.

Tibet's spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, fled into exile in India along with thousands of his followers after a failed uprising against Chinese rule in 1959.

He appealed to world leaders yesterday to help end the violence in Tibet, by persuading Chinese leaders "to stop the continued violations of human rights."

## New king crowned in Jogjakarta

JAKARTA, March 7. (UPI): The tiny principality of Jogjakarta today crowned a new king with pomp, pageantry and a dash of commercialism that upset many of the 100 million Javanese to whom the new ruler, Hamengkubuwono IX, is the "bearer of the world."

Hamengkubuwono IX, a former vice-president, died last October while undergoing medical treatment in the United States without appointing a successor to the 200-year-old throne.

Mangkubumi, the late Sultan's eldest son, won the consent of his 16 brothers to rule the magnificent palace in Jogjakarta, a sort of Vatican for the mystical Javanese, Indonesia's largest ethnic group.

The law graduate and parliamentarian took the oath of office in a spectacle that few of the 5,000 invitees were able to see.

To defray the cost of the coronation, Mangkubumi sold the film rights to a media marketing group.

The majority of guests were not allowed a glimpse. "That sort of thing would never have happened in the lifetime of the old Sultan," said one Jogjakarta resident.

Responding to accusations of money grubbing, palace spokesman Hadiwinoto said "we have to move with the times."

## Israeli troops blow up Nablus houses

# Another Palestinian shot dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 7. (AP): Israeli troops shot and killed a Palestinian teenager today and blew up the houses of two Arabs suspected of killing a soldier last month, the Army said. Eighteen others were reported wounded in violent protests in the Gaza Strip.

Demonstrations erupted in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in protest of the deaths of three Palestinians yesterday, including the unexplained death of an Arab held in a Shin Bet interrogation center. Yesterday's toll was the highest in nearly a month.

In the West Bank town of Nablus today, Hakim Baker, 18, was shot in the neck and back by soldiers as he stood on a rooftop in the densely populated casbah market section of the city.

An Army spokesman confirmed the death, which brought to 391 the number of Palestinians killed since the Palestinian uprising against Israel on Dec 8, 1987. Seventeen Israel have also died in

uprising-related violence.

About 90 minutes after the shooting incident, the Army said soldiers destroyed two houses in Nablus' casbah quarter. They belonged to suspects who allegedly dropped a concrete block on the head of paratrooper Benny Meisner on Feb 24. The house from which the block was thrown was demolished earlier.

One house destroyed today belonged to the family of Samir Naanish, 22. Arab reporters said he had been shot in the chest during previous violence and spent several months in a hospital.

Arab reporters said a second house belonged to Ibrahim Taktouk, 19, who had lost an eye when struck by a plastic bullet in an earlier clash with soldiers.

Both Naanish and Taktouk are in custody in connection with Meisner's death.

The Army said in a statement that the two Palestinians belonged to the outlawed PLO-backed

"Shabiba" youth organisation and to underground "shock committees" that organised anti-Israeli protests. It said both had been arrested previously and served jail terms for participating in demonstrations.

The Army reimposed a curfew on Nablus, the largest city in the West Bank with a population of 120,000, at dawn in an apparent effort to prevent protests over the house demolitions. The city spent 10 days under a round-the-clock curfew that ended yesterday.

Eighteen Palestinians, including a 5-year-old boy and an 11-year-old girl, suffered gunshot wounds in stone-throwing clashes with the Army in the Gaza Strip, hospital officials said.

Nine were wounded in the Jabaliya refugee camp, where unrest broke out after camp resident Ahmed Ramadan Al Azami was fatally wounded in the chest by Army gunfire yesterday.

## Earthquake hits Japan

TOKYO, March 7. (UPI): A strong earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale rocked a large portion of central Japan last night, waking residents with a rolling motion lasting more than a minute, but no casualties or significant damage were reported, authorities said.

The National Meteorological Agency said the quake struck was felt throughout a wide area of central Japan.

The agency said the quake was centred 30 miles (50 km) below the earth's surface near the city of Choshi at the tip of Chiba prefecture on the Pacific coast, some 60 miles (100 km) east of Tokyo.

Although the quake registered 6.0 on the open-ended Richter scale at its epicentre, its intensity was much less in Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya and other cities in the region.

## Lebanese financier denies being kidnapped

BEIRUT, March 7. (Reuters): A missing Lebanese financier has called a Beirut newspaper denying reports that he had been kidnapped for a \$2 million ransom. The leftist daily As Safir said today.

It said Roger Tamraz, former manager of the financially-troubled Al Mashreq Bank, telephoned the newspaper's offices last night saying he would "show up in the next two days".

Security sources could not say whether Tamraz made the call under duress but banking sources said they still believed he was being held against his will.

Officials at the Al Mashreq Bank refused to comment.

Muslim security sources said yesterday unidentified gunmen kidnapped Tamraz, 42, on March 5 in the Syrian-controlled Christian town of Zahleh in the Bekaa Valley.

Al Mashreq ran into difficulties because Tamraz, who owns some six major companies and around 20 enterprises, had invested its cash reserves to fund private businesses, official sources said.

Tamraz had to step down in January from the chairmanship of the board of Lebanon's Intra Investment Group. He sought the protection of Syrian-backed Muslim militias when judicial authorities issued a warrant for his arrest at the request of Central Bank Governor Edmond Naim.

## 20 Hindu pilgrims die in stampede

NEW DELHI, March 7. (UPI): At least 20 Hindu pilgrims suffocated in a stampede caused by jostling and pushing by devotees during a religious function to mark the birthday of a Hindu mythological God of destruction in eastern Bihar state, news reports said today.

The Statesman newspaper said the tragedy occurred yesterday when thousands of pilgrims thronged a temple of the Hindu God of Shiva near Sasaram, 475 miles (765 km) southeast of New Delhi, tried to force their way into the temple to offer morning prayers, considered auspicious by Hindus.

The Press Trust of India news agency quoted officials as saying the jostling and pushing by the pilgrims in the narrow passage to the temple caused the stampede, resulting in the death of at least 20 people, most of whom were women and children.

The Statesman newspaper quoting witnesses said the death toll was higher than confirmed by the state officials, putting the number of people killed at 30.

Hindus across the country yesterday celebrated Mahashivratri to mark the birthday of the Hindu mythological God of Destruction — Shiva.

The devotees observe the day by fasting and singing hymns and staying awake through the night.

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## More countries to sign ozone pact

LONDON, March 7. (Reuters): At least 13 more nations have promised to sign an agreement to cut the use of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) chemicals to help save the earth's thinning protective ozone shield.

The 13, including countries from the East bloc, the Third World and Western Europe, are among 120 nations that wrap up a three-day landmark conference on the ozone layer today.

"We have a momentum going and we must not let that momentum slow down," New Zealand's Environment Minister Geoffrey Palmer said.

Brazil, considered a potentially high consumer of chemicals, said yesterday it would sign the 1987 Montreal Protocol, which calls for a 50 per cent cut in the use of CFCs by 1990. A further nine nations said they would seriously consider signing or ratifying.

Even China, critical of what it called the inequalities of the agreement regarding developing countries, said it might sign a modified protocol and planned to attend a meeting in Helsinki in May where the accord will be reviewed.

Thirty nations have already signed and ratified.

Indian and Chinese delegates called for an international ozone protection fund, with technology being transferred free of charge to developing nations.

CFCs are used in refrigeration, computer chip solvents, aerosols, foam packaging and some medicines. They destroy ozone — which blocks out cancer-causing sun rays and regulates climate — and are believed by scientists to have eaten a vast hole in the ozone layer above the Antarctic.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said that damage to the earth's ozone shield would last through the 21st century and called for every country to protect the planet's life support systems.

She was delivering the closing address at a three-day conference attended by 123 countries.

Thatcher, co-host of the meeting with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), said the ozone layer was at the mercy of chemical changes taking place in the atmosphere.



President Corazon Aquino hands out a food package to a poor family during her visit to a village of Samar province. (Reuters wirephoto)

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# UAE, Romania aviation agreement

ABU DHABI, March 7. (KUNA): Official talks between Romania and the United Arab Emirates were held today, in preparation for an aviation agreement between the two countries.

A senior executive of the Romanian national carrier headed his country's delegation in the meetings, while UAE Undersecretary at the Ministry of Transportation Mohammed Yahya Al Souaidi led the UAE side.

Discussions during the meeting centred on articles of the agreement regarding the number of weekly flights between the two countries, arrival and departure points in addition to tax exemptions.

The two sides are expected to finalise on the items of the agreement tomorrow.

# Education staff evaluation next year

THE director of Farwania Educational Area and Chairman of the Ministry Staff Performance Evaluation Committee, Ibrahim Abul Kheil said that the new performance evaluation system will be implemented as of the next academic year.

He told a local newspaper that the committee is expected to submit its report to the council of undersecretaries sometime next May. Two sub-committees have already been set up to separately evaluate the performance of administrators and staff holding auxiliary positions.

He pointed out that the aim of the committee is to reconsider the existing performance levels of administrative and technical staff. The current system is deemed inadequate, he added.

# Maternity experts meet in Dubai

RIYADH, March 7. (KUNA): Childhood and maternity experts from Arabian Gulf countries and representatives from international organisations are currently meeting in Dubai to discuss how to improve child-care and maternity services in the 1990s.

A UNICEF press release yesterday said that 40 experts from Gulf and other different countries will take part in the meetings that will discuss the present conditions of childhood and maternity care in Arabian Gulf states.

The meetings, prepared by the Gulf Co-operation Council General Secretariat and UNICEF, will also tackle the United Nations agreement for childhood rights and its significance to Gulf countries.

The UNICEF statement added that the meeting comes as a step from UN organisations, especially the UNICEF, to set co-operation programmes jointly with the Gulf states.

# Zayed message to Saddam

ABU DHABI, March 7. (KUNA): UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan sent a message today to his Iraqi counterpart Saddam Hussein on the situation in the region and issues of mutual concern.

The message which was conveyed through diplomatic channels, was in reply to a message received by Sheikh Zayed recently from the Iraqi President.



# Mexican Nite at Hotel Meridien

HOTEL Meridien Kuwait, in co-operation with the Electronic Appliances Corp., is featuring a Mexican Nite at La Brasserie every Sunday. Raffle tickets will be issued to each guest and valuable prizes will be given to the lucky winners. Prizes include 1 coloured television set, 1 video, 1 refrigerator and seven cash prizes donated by the Electronic Appliances Corp. plus meal certificates in various outlets of Hotel Meridien Kuwait. Raffle draw will be conducted on March 19, 1989.

Mexican Nite offers traditional 'South of the Border' specialties and 'favorites' including tacos, tortillas and refried beans. All these, plus live Mariachi music ensure a delightful evening.

# Council of Ministers discuss national and international issues

KUWAIT, March 7. (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah today presided over the regular meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Cabinet Affairs Minister Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed stated that Sheikh Saad informed the cabinet of a visit to the country next Sunday by the Prince and Princess of Wales Charles and Diana.

He said the council welcomed the visit which comes within the framework of the strong historical relations between the two friendly countries while Sheikh Saad wished the prince and his spouse a pleasant stay in Kuwait.

Sheikh Saad briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the recent visit to the country by PLO Chief Yasser Arafat. The Crown Prince and Premier explained to the cabinet that talks focused on uprisings, developments, means of boosting peace efforts in the Middle East as well as other Arab issues.

The cabinet listened to a report by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Ossaimi on the outcome of his visit to Japan where he took part in the funeral of late Emperor Hirohito on behalf of His Highness the Amir.

Ossaimi also briefed the council on the talks he held with Indonesian and Indian officials during his recent visit to the two countries, which centred on bilateral relations, non-alignment issues and other matters of mutual concern.

Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the meetings of the council of governors of the Islamic Bank, held recently in Rabat to discuss the bank's activities and means of boosting co-operation between Islamic countries.

He also briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the deliberations of the Arab Economic Council and the committee of eight, entrusted with assessing Arab economic organisations. He explained to the cabinet the decisions taken by the council with the aim of boosting co-operation and joint Arab action in all economic and developmental fields.

The council discussed disengagement of jurisdictions between ministries and government departments within the framework of the general plan for administrative development. The cabinet discussed technical aspects pertinent to the issue prior to reaching a practical formula for implementing recommendations in this regard.

To speed up implementation of the project, the cabinet decided to authorise the committee on disengagement to take necessary measures needed to implement the recommendations in this connection with the concerned parties. Controversial issues should be raised with the cabinet for consideration.

The cabinet reviewed reports of some specialised conferences which took place abroad and got acquainted with their outcome.

# Arab labour market suffering from tensions

# Departure of expats may create problems: Nasser



Sheikh Nasser

EXPATRIATE labourers in the oil-producing countries may soon begin returning to their own countries, Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed said yesterday. Addressing the 17th Arab Labour Conference being held in Rabat, Sheikh Nasser said that the drop in oil revenues combined with the completion of infrastructure projects in oil-producing countries, in addition to their increasing number of university graduates, raises a big question about the future of expatriate manpower in these countries.

Sheikh Nasser said that in terms of the Arab world, the return of expatriate manpower to their own countries, including the reduction of foreign currency remittances from these workers, an adverse effect on the labour markets of these countries, and other related social problems. This issue requires more attention, the minister said.

The aggravation of the economic crisis in the Arab world with its complications greatly increases the intensity of social problems in Arab countries. Sheikh Nasser went on to say that immigration from the countryside to cities is one of the main problems in many Arab countries, he said, adding that the failures and defeats faced by the Arab world between 1965 and 1985 constituted an important factor in determining its future and its ability to face the challenges.

Sheikh Nasser also called upon the conference to discuss the expected results of Europe's planned economic union on the Arab Maghreb states, in particular its effect on Arab manpower in Europe. The minister went on to say that the widespread use of computers and other modern innovations has created the need for restraining employees in the Arab labour market.

At the same time, he said, "We should be very careful about the expected adverse effects of the use of modern techniques." He suggested carrying out a study on the social effects of technological innovations, in order to evaluate the various aspects of the issue. The Arab labour market has been suffering from many tensions, he explained, and needs more.

Palestinian uprising and the declaration of the Palestinian state, saying the second half of last year and the first two months of this year have carried positive and optimistic signs.

Moroccan Premier Izzeddin Laraki, opening the conference on Monday, said that unemployment is the most dangerous problem facing the labour sector in the Arab world, saying that the growing population in the Third World together with the replacing of workers by machines are making matters worse.

Laraki called on the Arab states to attach great importance to the rehabilitation of workers to enable them to cope with technological and scientific progress. He also praised the Gulf Co-operation Council, the Arab Co-operation Council, and the Arab Maghreb Union, saying that they are a prelude to a comprehensive Arab unity.

Director-General of the Arab Labour Bureau Hashem Al Banani said that in addition to tackling the spheres of social change in the Arab world over the coming decade, the conference would focus on the issue of Palestinian workers in the occupied territories and the daily oppressions they face at the hands of Israel.

Banani also saluted the efforts of the Arab League six-man committee on Lebanon, headed by Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, praying for its guided success.

# Work permits 'cost up to KD 1,000

# Expatriates ask authorities to solve residence permit problems

A NUMBER of Arab expatriates in Kuwait have appealed to the authorities to offer more facilities for renewing residence permits or transferring them from family permits to work permits, a local daily reported.

One expatriate, Omar Al Salem, said that his son, who is studying abroad, has had to maintain employment with a local company in order to maintain his residence here. He added that family residence permits cannot be transferred to work permits, and hopes that officials will solve the problem.

Hardly. Mohammed Ahmed agreed that many expatriate families are suffering hardship under local residence laws. Many children were born in this country and

studied in its schools, he pointed out, but are then obliged to go abroad to continue their studies in foreign universities, which causes them to lose their residence permits here. Ahmed called on officials to make exceptions for expatriates who are born here and spend most of their lives in Kuwait.

Another expatriate called on the authorities to reconsider a law which does not allow students over 21 years old to renew their residence permits if they are studying out of Kuwait. The authorities, he said, should show sympathy to Palestinian students holding travel documents who study abroad, because they face serious problems when their residence permits are cancelled.

Ahmed Najim meanwhile praised Kuwait as a country for all Arabs where all people live in peace and freedom, adding that he is very optimistic that the students' problem will be solved. Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah is known for his good

human values, he added. Still, many families have been scattered because their children were obliged to leave Kuwait after having their residence permits cancelled at the age of 21, according to Akram Mahdawi. He added that many Palestinians carrying travel documents cannot get visit visas for their children or relatives wishing to visit them in Kuwait.

The difficulties facing expatriates in such situations have given rise to commercial offices trading in residence permits, according to one source. These offices get KD400 to KD500 for making residence permits, and KD750 to KD1000 for work permits, the source said. Many expatriates are obliged to pay these amounts in order to bring their children in from outside or to maintain their residence permits, the source went on, adding that he hoped the Interior Ministry will take the required actions to solve this problem.

# Hepatitis control committee to meet in Kuwait March 29-30

By Mahmoud Mursi

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Public Health will host meetings of the hepatitis control committee on March 29 and 30, according to a local daily.

The committee was set up by the secretariat of the Council of Health Ministers of Gulf states during their 26th meeting held in Kuwait last December.

The committee comprises hepatitis specialists to study the disease and ability to use vaccinations presently being used around the world to fight the disease in the Arabian Gulf area.

Meanwhile, Assistant Secretary-General of Kuwait Medical Specialties Institute and consultant of contagious diseases at the Public Health Ministry Dr Saleh Al Kandiri has said that hepatitis is classified under several types: A, B, C etc.

The most common type is hepatitis B. 20 per cent of these cases affect African countries, 20 per cent the Far East and only one per cent in Europe and America. The percentage is between two and four in Kuwait and the UAE.

# Alleged thief arrested

KUWAIT, March 7. (KUNA): City police have arrested an Egyptian national accused of stealing KD60,000 from two fellow citizens who told police earlier that the suspect cheated them while they were on their way to deposit the sum in a local bank.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said today police arrested the Egyptian identified only as Abu Al Wafa with the stolen sum in his possession. He added the accused and the money have

been turned to prosecution for investigation.

The spokesman also said securitymen have arrested a Lebanese named Atef and a Syrian woman identified as Zalekha, the first for trying to steal KD60,000 of perfumes and the second for attempting to steal goods worth KD8 from a city commercial centre.

Both are facing police cases at Salmiya police station, the spokesman said.

# BAHRAIN DIGEST

# Legal expert calls for development of computer technology for lawyers

THE legal profession world-wide, like other professions and institutions, have lately become dependent on the use of "information technology" or modern computer techniques to facilitate and increase the pace and quality of its activities.

According to a leading legal expert on the use and applications of computers, there is an urgent need to promote and develop a market to meet the computer technology requirements of individual lawyers and law firms world-wide.

Addressing a session of the International Bar Association Second Arab Regional Conference, this week in Bahrain, Simon Chaiton, chairman of International Bar Association committee for professional development and technology, said that the legal profession today has very special requirements which the information technology market cannot adequately meet.

He said it would be sensible in the long run for users in the legal profession to form a group and use a common system of computer technology. He added it would not only be economical and cost-effective, but also encourage the growth of suppliers to meet the requirements of the legal profession on the whole.

"The maintenance of software is expensive, and not justifiable unless the cost is shared between a reasonable number of users. A software package with less than 40 users willing to share this cost may become commercially unviable," said Chaiton.

Chaiton said at present America leads the way with greater number of software suppliers specifically for the legal market, along with England and Australia to a lesser extent.

He forecast the market will become "mature" for the legal profession, with equipment becoming more standardised and the software more varied. He also added that there will be increased use of small packages by some lawyers in future.

# Formula to balance education with state requirements: Shamlan

KUWAIT, March 7. (KUNA): Higher Education Minister Dr Ali Al Shamlan said his ministry was working out a formula that would realise "strict balance" between growing aspirations among students to join Kuwait University and the country's real needs of various qualifications.

In an interview with a local weekly magazine, Shamlan emphasised that the formula would be a part of a plan by the ministry, currently under preparation.

He said various aspects of the plan, being formulated by a team of experts, would be intensively studied prior to approval.

The minister called for setting up an accurate study on the state's requirements of different specialties, and said such a study must be taken into consideration during admission of new students at the university and Institute of Public Authority of Applied Education and Training.

Shamlan stated that this task necessitates co-operation by many departments that should point out their needs within a fixed period, and provision of funds for the university and other institutions to allow for admission of students according to requirements.

# Citizens warned against giving false fire alarms

CITIZENS are warned against giving false alarms to the Fire Department about a false fire incident, the director of the training school at the General Fire Department Colonel Ali Al Mulla has said, adding that the department has modern equipment which can record the number of a telephone which is the source of false reports, as well as record the call itself.

Mulla described such false alarms as "boastful behaviour". Firemen rush to the scene of an accident where the report is true or false, he said, because they are "performing a human duty," any one who gives false alarms is subject to strict legal action, Mulla said.

Incidents. Firemen not only extinguish fires and save victims, according to Mulla, but also save people caught in collapsed buildings, as well as the victims of domestic accidents, particularly children, he said. The department has reported several incidents of children getting their fingers or hands caught in electric mixers or meat mincers, he added, explaining that hospitals usually call on

the Fire Department in such cases because of the special equipment the department possesses.

The most exciting and surprising incident reported by the department, Mulla recalled, was when firemen were called to save a man who had stuffed his head inside a can of milk powder and could not get it out. "We saved him, but were surprised by his childish action," Mulla said.

Hampered. Firemen never delay in rushing to the scene of an accident, Mulla added, although delays can arise from traffic problems or inaccurate addresses. Firemen are often hampered in performing their duties by crowds of people who gather at the scene of an accident, he observed.

Mulla said that anyone wishing to apply to work in the Fire Department should be Kuwaiti nationals between the ages of 18 and 26. Applicants are required to pass physical fitness and medical examinations. Fire officers study for nine months in Kuwait, then complete their studies in foreign countries, the official added.

# Civil defence practical training begins

THE practical training of the first batch of civil defence volunteers began yesterday and will continue till March 28th.

Training will include drills on methods of protection from radiation, use of shelters in air raids and others. The course will also include visits to several vital installations in the country. Theoretical study of the first batch known as "The Security Squad" began on Jan 28 and lasted for a month.

# Brothel keepers arrested

DETECTIVES of the Criminal Investigation Department yesterday arrested two women accused of running a brothel in the Firdous area.

One of the women rented a two-storey house in the area which was being used for illegal sex, according to a local daily.

Neighbours of the accused women became suspicious when they noticed different men continually visiting the premises and informed the police.

After some surveillance by the undercover agents, CID personnel broke into the house and arrested two men and another accomplice of the two accused.

# Ahmadi Model Governorate Week opens

THE Governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Al Salem Al Sabah yesterday opened the Model Governorate Week, organised by the Environmental Awareness Committee at the Environmental Protection Council.

In his opening speech, he stressed the importance of protecting the national environment and attached great significance to public co-operation in the field of upgrading and landscaping the governorate, including the ornamentation of building exteriors and the assortment of ornamental plants around houses.

The assistant undersecretary for medical equipment at the Ministry of Public Health and representative of the Environmental Protection Council Chairman Ibrahim Al Mudaf stressed the importance of the efforts exerted in the previous stage and the part played by the government establishments in ensuring environmental protection.

He also highlighted the vital role played by people to reduce pollution hazards.

He paid high tribute to the noble Amir who landscaped the country, and urged all people to pledge consistent co-operation to ensure successful fulfilment of this project.

مكتبة



## Love bait in the dead of night

By Brian Hollis

THE good news this week is that a lot of good new movies have arrived in Kuwait. The bad news is that due to the long weekend, most of them are still awaiting censorship approval. Still, it looks as though we'll be receiving most of the Oscar winners before the award ceremony at the end of this month, and meanwhile there's some reasonable video fodder to keep the punters happy.

Elliott Gould hasn't been seen around for quite some time, and makes his reappearance in a new murder thriller called *Dangerous Love*. Scientific computer dating in the States now includes the making of videos which help demonstrate and express your personality, likes and dislikes. Instead of reading CV's, you now watch a bunch of videos and choose the ones with whom you would like a date. They have a look at your video and see if they fancy you. The names and telephone numbers of the prospective dates are kept secret until agreement has been reached. Dave decides to join the scheme, but soon runs into a serious problem — all the girls he dates are murdered on the same night! Enter police detective Elliott Gould with his beautiful partner who poses as one of the prospective dates. Soon she and Dave have a thing going, but as he's the prime suspect in the murder hunt, their attempts to get it together are constantly thwarted. Dave's other problem is that he is a professional photographer, and the murderer also has a penchant for photographing his victims before killing them. Meanwhile, the boss of the club and Dave's best friend are beginning to look suspicious, especially when we learn that a good hacker can access the database of names and addresses without much problem.

The story may not be that original or convincing, but the girls are certainly worth watching.

Another familiar figure in a similar situation is Burt Reynolds, who appears as B.J. Stryker in *The Dancer's Touch*. Stryker is an ex-New Orleans detective who was suspended from duties and now lives among the rich and famous on Palm Beach, doing a bit of work now and again to pay the rent. When a pervert begins tying up girls and performing peculiar rites in front of them, the police are afraid he will soon start killing his victims. They call in Stryker (with great reluctance on the part of the latter) as the only person with experience of serial killers, to solve the crimes.

Keith Carradine is another well-known star who always appears on the right side of the law, but in *Backfire*, it takes some time before we realise it. Beautiful Mara (Karen Allen)



Burt Reynolds stars in *The Dancer's Touch*.

is unfaithful to her wealthy husband, Donny, a troubled Vietnam vet. With her lover she concocts a plan to drive him to suicide, but the plan backfires, leaving the lover decapitated and Donny in a catatonic state. She soon takes up with a mysterious stranger (Carradine) who moves into the mansion where the couple enjoy a passionate fling right under Donny's nose. When strange happenings in the house convince her that Donny is really faking his illness, she persuades Carradine to get rid of the husband once and for all. Little does she know that her new lover was once Donny's Marine corps buddy, and that her plan is again about to backfire. The film is efficiently made, with some excellent shock moments, but the plot is certainly not unfamiliar to regular cinema viewers.

The current Hollywood 'brat pack' includes two of Martin Sheen's sons, Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez. But it wasn't so long ago that Martin himself was portrayed as a young renegade. In *The California Kid* he sets out to find out just what caused his brother's fatal car crash, and runs into more trouble than he bargained for. The small town of Clarksburg is a well-known death trap, as seven people are known to have been killed there recently. Sheen drives into town in his high powered hot rod (called the California Kid) to the general hostility of the inhabitants. But when he uncovers the truth about the recent crashes, he is forced to test his driving skills in a high speed duel along the dangerous coast road that has already claimed several lives. If you don't like rednecks, pickups and car-chases, give this one a miss.

*Love at Stake* is a comedy set in Salem, Massachusetts just before the witchhunts. According to this version, the capitalist mayor and tax gatherer enlist the help of the local church to hunt for witches. The idea is to burn the witches and get hold of their property, as they hear that downtown Salem is about to witness a real estate boom. The only real witch in town (Barbara Carrera) can also see profit in these developments, and lends a hand to ensure that non-witches are convicted. The whole plot and execution is fairly stupid, but it may appeal to pre-teenagers, and others who like total slapstick.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Nauf, Salihiya, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Salmiya, Tel: 5724372.

## VIDEO CORNER

### High 'spirits' romance at Castle Plunkett

By Gail Seery

I SUPPOSE you could say that *High Spirits* is a classic story of wipe-swapping in Ireland. Jack and Sharon have problems with their marriage; he's a kindly but clumsy and well-meaning fellow, and she's a valium-popping ice machine. Mary and Martin also have problems. He has murdered her every night for the past 200 years, and she is getting tired of it. "If I get murdered one more time, I'll scream!"

Not that Jack doesn't put up an initial fight: "Look, you're a ghost. I'm an American — it would never work out." Predictably, of course Jack and Sharon's marriage ends in disaster. "Your lawyer, my lawyer — and I hope your ghost has a lawyer!"

*High Spirits* is a delightful story, starting where films like *Beetse and Dead Heat* left off. Directed and written by Neil Jordan it is full of witty dialogue. Like *Illegally Yours*, it starts with a monologue from a central character, which serves as an exposition of the plot. However, unlike in *Illegally Yours*, the monologue, by the gifted and eccentric Peter O'Toole, is very

funny and skillfully managed.

Castle Plunkett is under mortgage to Jim Brogan an unpleasant millionaire who intends to foreclose and transport the castle from Ireland to Malibu. Plunkett, played by Peter O'Toole, is talking to Brogan on the telephone. "Mr Brogan, how do you propose to transport an entire castle across the sea — the number of stamps alone is mind boggling!"

Plunkett has a batty mother, who subsequently catches him in the act of trying to hang himself, and is extremely annoyed with him. "Your father's so worried he's tearing his hair out," she scolds. "Mother, Father has been dead for a decade." "And what about your grandmother, how do you think she feels?" she goes on, obviously reluctant to be halted in mid-stream. "Mother, Grandmother is dead too," he responds wearily.

He suddenly has the idea of setting up Castle Plunkett as the most haunted castle in the Emerald Isle — except there are no ghosts — he thinks. This therefore involves trying to perpetrate an elaborate hoax. Jack and Sharon, who later turn out to be the nasty Brogan's daughter, and a panel of assorted

guests, including a parapsychologist, arrive at the castle. The only visitor to be in any way taken in by the hoax is Jack.

"This is the most pitiful supernatural scam I've ever encountered," yells the parapsychologist. "We'll get better," Plunkett tells him. But drunkenly stumbling to the wrong room, Jack witnesses Mary and Martin, the real ghosts, and falls head over heels in love with Mary.

Mary and Martin are not the only ghosts. Plunkett's mother has carried on her relationship with her dead husband as if nothing has happened. He explains to her that the Americans will not be allowed to leave but will be treated to some real haunting. "No respectable ghost would live in California," he explains.

This film is thoroughly enjoyable and extremely endearing. O'Toole, Darryl Hannah, who plays Mary, and Steve Guttenberg, who portrays Jack, all do an excellent job of keeping the story moving along. The supporting actors and actresses are all solid and convincing, and the whole is rounded off by some nice special effects.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

#### MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoon Serial  
10.00 Al Jazir Min Hanan: Arabic serial, starring Abdul Rahman Al Rashi, Rabee'a Shihab, Shafiqah T'ali  
11.00 Baqaya Wajoo: Arabic serial, starring Ibrahim Sallal, Haifa Adel, Ayesha Ibrahim, Khalifa Omar  
12.00 International Circus  
1.00 News Summary  
1.05 World News via Satellite/Closedown

#### EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran  
4.15 World News via

Satellite  
4.45 Nelly's: cartoon serial  
5.15 Laila Min Alf Laila: Thousand and One Nights  
5.45 Ibn Attiya: historical serial starring Majed Afrouni, Shafiq Hassan, Marcel Marina and cartoons will also be shown.  
6.15 With Students  
7.00 News Summary  
7.30 Folklore  
8.00 Cultural Film  
8.30 Good Evening  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.50 Loolu wa Asdaaf: Arabic serial  
10.50 Aghniyat: Fi Al Tamayyat: features Mohammad Salman and Walid Tawfiq  
12.00 News Summary

12.05 World News via Satellite: Holy Quran/Closedown

### KTV 2

3.30 Opening, Holy Quran  
3.40 Football match: Saudi Arabia vs Al Kuwait  
5.40 Educational programme  
6.06 Cartoon serial  
6.30 Prestige: "The Golden Bug"  
7.25 Mutual of Omaha: "The New Zealand Deer Life." Part two.  
7.50 You and the Law  
8.00 News in English  
8.55 Madlock: "The Court Martial." Part 2. A soldier accused of murder disappears from a hearing.  
9.40 Hooperman: more action with Hooperman.  
10.10 Just for Laughs  
10.30 Feature film: "Applause."  
12.35 News Summary/followed by Magazine D'Actualite/ Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

### NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Cairo Pharmacy  
Tukhaim Bldg., Fabad Al Salem St.  
Ibn Rushd Pharmacy  
Souk Al Kuwait Bldg., Souk Duaij  
Fahsheel and Ahmadi  
Al Fulaj Pharmacy  
nr. Safeway, Makkah St., F'heel

Hawalli and Nagra  
Al Kamal Pharmacy  
Tunis St. Hawalli  
Salamiya and Rumaithiya  
Al Razan Pharmacy  
Razi St.  
Farwaniya  
Al Jazira Pharmacy  
Hmoud Haef Al Rashidi Bldg., Main St.  
Jahra  
Al Noor Pharmacy  
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

# GO FOR THE PACESETTER.

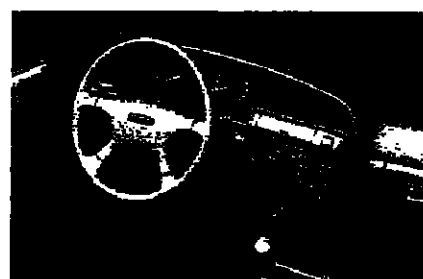
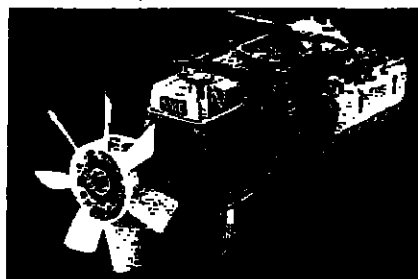


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## WHAT'S ON

### SOCIAL

**Social Evening**  
MARCH 16 (8 pm): Dinner and social evening, BOPs till You Drop, music from the 30s to the 80s, featuring Karl and Christine Anderson with the Top Ranks band at Sheraton Hotel. For invitations contact 4834938. Invitations also available from Family Bookshop, Salmiya.

**May Queen Contest**  
KUWAIT Goans will hold the May Queen contest on May 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will provide musical entertainment. For details ring 4881387.

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Saturday - Wednesday, 4.30 - 5.30 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

**KAPILKU Meeting**  
MARCH 9 (8 pm): The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait, KAPILKU, will hold an officers meeting at Holiday Inn.  
March 10 (9 am): All chairmen and vice-chairmen of sports committee will hold a meeting. Same venue as above.

**ACT**  
MARCH 27, 28, 29, 30 (8 pm): ACT presents "The Madwoman of Chailot," directed by George Plautz. For reservation call 5731782 (answerphone) or 5755391, 5-7 pm.

## CINEMA TODAY

**Fahsheel Open-air**  
Daku Hasina (Hindi)  
Al Fahsheel  
Youn Mirr Youn Helu (Arabic)

**Al Andalus**  
Bustaan Al Damm (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Adham, Ameera, Ilham Shahin

**Al Salmiya**  
People's Theatre performance  
Al Hamra  
Al Khatem (Arabic)  
Starring: Nelli, Samir Sabri, Jalal Sharqawi

**Drive-in**  
Mo'ajimah Samah (Arabic)  
Starring: Madiha Kamel, Ezzat Alaili, Muna Abdul Ghani

**Al Firdous**  
Hindi Film  
Al Jahra  
The Junkman  
Granada  
Al Fatimat Al Makalaat (Arabic)  
Sulabikhat  
Prime Risk  
Al Jeeb  
Deadly Pursuit  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
Gharam Al Afa' ai (Arabic)

### PRAYERS

Fajr	4.46 am
Zuhr	11.59
Asr	3.21 pm
Maghreb	5.53
Isha	7.09



## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

DO all the good you can and make no fuss about it — Charles Dickens, English author (1812-1870).

## OPINION

### Amir sets a new tradition

THE meeting on Monday of the highest authority in the country with senior administrative officials has a very important indication.

The highest authority is obviously supervising the work of official staff. Such supervision is intended to achieve the vital task of ensuring that no citizen is deprived of his rights.

The law is certainly respected by all, but at the same time, there is essentially a difference in the spirit or philosophy in applying the law literally when each employee has his own interpretation of the law.

What is needed here is that the interpretation should be flexible and logical and for the benefit of the public.

When the highest authority meets with administrative seniors, it also means that the authority does not allow them to interpret alone — it helps them. When a mistake is committed by government staff, the only source for redress should be the highest authority.

The trust and confidence in the government staff must always be accompanied with supervision on how laws are implemented.

The highest authority has clearly given its opinion on how the administrative government staff should deal with the public. It must be remembered that there are no problems that have no solutions — wherever there is true willingness.

Laws are not rigid — if improvements are needed, amendments to the law for the betterment of the public and enhancing the modalities of service of the government staff can be enacted.

Meeting with senior administrators in the government implies explicitly government supervision. Undoubtedly many administrators are honest and dedicated. But, at the same time, there are some whose behaviour needs to be reviewed and corrected. Authority entrusted in administrators is not to be used as a sword against the public.

The Kuwaiti leadership with its well-known traditions, has now created another tradition. The leadership has directly expressed its feelings to the state administrators who implement decisions in the country.

HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed will thus remain the pioneer leader with his new traditions through which he abolished the barriers with the people. By this enactment, he gives the people the right to talk directly without representatives.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Polisario pushed to the sidelines

By Jonathan Clayton

ALGIERS. (Reuters). The Polisario Front's information office in the bustling heart of Algiers, once festooned with posters proclaiming the justice of its struggle with Morocco for Western Sahara, is now empty and boarded-up.

A little further down the street a new, ultra-modern office of the Moroccan national airline Royal Air Maroc proudly offers almost daily flights to Casablanca, Fez and Marrakesh. It is rarely empty.

The contrast neatly reflects the differing fortunes enjoyed by the two sides to the desert conflict over the last nine months.

Since Algeria — Polisario's main backer — and Morocco restored diplomatic ties last May, the two countries have grown closer and closer together while the guerrilla group has looked on from the sidelines.

In October, Polisario's office was one of many government-linked targets pillaged by marauding soldiers during five days of anti-austerity riots. Few believe it will ever open again.

**Broken** Relations between the two North African states had been broken in 1976 over Algeria's support for Polisario guerrillas fighting for independence for the former Spanish colony on the western bulge of Africa.

For many years the two neighbours hovered on the brink of all-out war. But the dispute rarely appeared popular with the Algerian man in the street, unlike in Morocco where even the communists support King Hassan's struggle for "national integrity."

Fireworks were set off in Algiers when the Moroccan flag was hoisted for the first time in 12 years. Direct flights and telephone links were re-established almost immediately and work is well under way repairing an old railway line.

Meanwhile, the 13th anniversary of the start of the Western Sahara conflict took place last week with only a passing reference in the government-controlled press.

"They made as little fuss of it as they respectably could. The Algerians have clearly made up

their mind where their long-term interest lies," said a diplomat.

He cited a recent agreement to build a pipeline to carry Algerian natural gas exports across Morocco to Spain, France and finally West Germany.

Officially Algeria still supports Polisario, but the October riots have accelerated a process of economic and political reform which is underpinned by regional rapprochement.

Military analysts say Algeria has stopped supplying arms and instead is using its political influence to get Polisario as good a deal as possible.

"Their (Polisario's) time has gone. It was ridiculous anyhow. Two countries — each with a population of 23 million — brought close to war because of 200,000 nomads," an Algerian post office worker said.

Diplomats and analysts point to the small print of the founding treaty of the Arab Maghreb Union, a North African common market set up by Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania at a summit in Marrakesh at the end of February.

Article 15 says no country in the region will allow groups hostile to another on its territory and will consider an attack on one member state as an attack on all.

That appears to rule out an end to a one-month truce declared by Polisario last month in a move they said was designed to help advance United Nations efforts to end the dispute through a self-determination referendum.

#### Attacks

Polisario base camps in south-western Algeria have been used for years to launch attacks on Moroccan troops who control four-fifths of the 102,000 square miles (270,000 sq kms) of barren territory.

Military analysts say Polisario would not be able to pose a serious military threat without at least tacit Algerian support.

But well-armed Polisario units could decamp to poorly defended Mauritania and become a destabilising factor in the region.

That prospect has helped focus attention on reaching a political solution acceptable to all sides.

### Four years in power

## Gorbachev's search for a better life for Soviets

By Michael Putzel

MOSCOW. (AP). Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev says he was asked by a Polish farmer during a roadside stop what he was trying to accomplish with all his reforms.

"Simply, we want, in spite of everything...for working people to lead a better life," Gorbachev said he replied. "I thought it was enough to say."

Perhaps it's as simple as that: the quaint wish of a Russian peasant's son who grew up in such hardship that at one point he was kept out of school for want of shoes.

But Gorbachev was taught to dream in the time of Nikita Khrushchev, another reformist Soviet leader of humble origins who struggled to reform the Soviet economy and society with visionary, sometimes rash schemes. The indications are that Gorbachev is more careful than Khrushchev, but that he, too, dreams of grand, profound changes, not just for the Soviet people but for the Soviet state.

In four years, Gorbachev has made wholesale changes in how the world perceives him and the nation he leads. He has freed thousands of political prisoners and permitted tens of thousands of emigrants to leave the country.

#### Fear

He has eased, though certainly not eliminated, the fear of foreigners and converted the mass media from a tightly controlled propaganda organ to a braying callophoe of complaints, debates, exposes and experiments testing just how far the new openness may go — and to what purpose.

Yet for all his effort, the changes at home have been largely atmospheric. The forces that keep this vast nation a drab, monolithic parody of the communist state envisioned by its founders resist each tangible step toward that "better life" Gorbachev seeks for those he calls "the simple people who are the salt of our country."

Store shelves are barren. Meat, butter, cheese and sugar are widely rationed. Such simple necessities as winter boots and

windshield wipers are perpetually unavailable. Consumers must wait for years to buy long-outdated models of "modern conveniences" such as washing machines, cars or even electric irons.

The air in urban areas is filthy, the water unreliable, living quarters poorly planned and filled far beyond capacity. Crash construction programmes produce instant ruins, crumbling high rises barely habitable by the time they are occupied, years after their first cracked concrete slabs were laid.

#### Shortcomings

Gorbachev rails against the system's shortcomings and the inertia-bound bureaucrats who stand in his way. But the challenges that confront him reach not just to the heart of the Soviet economy but to the depths of the Russian soul. Progress toward any fundamental change must certainly be measured in terms longer than four years.

One of the imponderables of this tumultuous time is how long even a remarkably dynamic and

politically astute leader has to accomplish his goals.

One simple measure of how long the road is and how much time progress takes: last summer, the Communist Party Central Committee set as a national goal the installation of a telephone in just one-half of all Soviet homes by 1995. People in urban areas now wait for years for a phone, and many rural districts don't have any service. Some villagers less than 5 kms (3 miles) from Moscow draw their water from community wells.

#### Guesswork

It is a fundamental tenet of official American analysis that the "better life" Gorbachev seeks for his countrymen is not an end in itself but the means of maintaining his nation's superpower status in a fast-changing world. The Soviet Union, according to that view, no longer can afford its own military might and can't use its power to keep pace with — or even steal — the technology that is quickly widening the Gulf between the industrialised West and the long-stagnant East.

But discerning Gorbachev's vision is still, as Kreninology long has been, an inexact exercise based on distant observation, analysis and guesswork.

Despite openness on some topics, requests for interviews on the topic with key Gorbachev advisors were declined, and access to the decision-making process remains the province of so very few that Western analysts don't even know who has regular access to the Soviet leader or where their offices are.

As Gorbachev has pressed for more open discussion of problems, modernization of services, development of private initiative and greater public participation in the political process, some Westerners have been tempted to think he is trying to fashion a nation resembling the world's other great superpower, the United States.

Others, among them Georgetown University Sovietologist Murray Feshbach, suggest Gorbachev may have the democratic socialism of a Sweden in mind as

a model. Or, he may have another eventual structure in mind, combining Western and communist models.

A pragmatic leader who calls himself a realist, Gorbachev has repeatedly insisted he intends to work within the framework of socialism to achieve "perestroika," the revolutionary restructuring of Soviet society.

#### Refused

He could hardly say otherwise in a country that for three generations has refused to permit even the discussion of ideological alternatives. Nonetheless, he has offered other reasons to doubt he favours the American model.

The United States, he said in his book "Perestroika," has a huge production potential and an enormous material wealth, but, at the same time, it has millions of unfortunate people...an almost missionary passion for preaching about human rights and liberties and a disregard for ensuring those same elementary rights in their own home.

By Kathleen Callo

ON BOARD THE USS MIDWAY. (Reuters). The US Navy sees a bigger role for its aircraft carriers in global defence as the prospect looms of a decrease in American bases overseas.

With the United States urging Japan and NATO allies to shoulder more defence costs and some host countries showing reluctance to keep US facilities, Navy officials are looking to Washington's 13 carriers to pick up the slack.

"We're being kicked out of every country," Rear Admiral Lyle Bull, commander of the Seventh Fleet's battle force and carrier strike force, told Reuters recently.

"(Allies) are saying: 'We don't need you any more for stability. Stability is here,'" he said in an interview on board the USS Midway in the South China Sea.

The Midway, whose home port is in Yokosuka, Japan, is the only American carrier permanently based overseas.

Other carrier groups from Washington's four fleets operating in the Atlantic, Pacific, Caribbean and Mediterranean move to various regions depending on where they are needed.

#### Protect

The United States, which has kept warships in the Gulf for the last 40 years, for instance, stepped up its presence in July 1987 to protect neutral oil traffic from attack in the Iran-Iraq war.

That included keeping a carrier group of eight to 12 vessels in the Northern Arabian Sea within air flight of the Gulf.

US carriers have become increasingly independent of land support and able to spend longer periods of time at sea.

The Midway, Washington's oldest carrier commissioned in 1945, runs on oil, but newer nuclear-powered vessels like the Nimitz run 15 to 20 years without refuelling.

Many repairs which used to require port calls are now made at sea by visiting repair ships.

"We have a sustainability that is very impressive," says Bull. "We could go any place...we're always on call."

US carrier-based planes were involved in the 1986 strike against Libya. Other planes flew from US bases in Britain.

## US sees new role for aircraft carriers



A Navy engineer repairs a plane on a hangar inside the USS Midway as the aircraft carrier steams through the South China Sea. (Reuters wirephoto)

Inability to train always on land has prompted US Marines to do certain training on other large Navy ships.

Last summer Marines fired automatic rifles and machine-guns on the helicopter flight deck of the USS Dubuque, exploded steel doors in demolition exercises in its hold and dropped out of the deck from hovering helicopter while the ship was in the Gulf.

Colonel John Admire, commander of the 413 Marines on board the amphibious transport vessel, described the sea-bound combat training as a first, born of rushed deployment and lack of access to land training while in the Gulf.

He told Reuters recently at Subic Bay Naval Base in the Philippines that Marines were looking more and more at training on ships as opportunities to train on land in various foreign countries lessened.

Pentagon planners describe US bases in Britain, Japan, Italy and West Germany as secure, but disputes over facilities in Greece, Portugal, the Philippines, Spain and Turkey point to the possibility of eventually closing some installations.

## Groups urge more aggressive US policy in Afghanistan

By Gene Kramer

WASHINGTON. (AP). With Soviet forces now out of Afghanistan, the United States should try to lessen the influence of Islamic fundamentalists among Afghan guerrillas aiming to take over the government, two US policy groups are recommending.

The two American groups, who do not often find common ground, are Asia Watch, a private organization dedicated to monitoring abuse of human rights, and the Heritage Foundation, the conservative study organization regarded as close to the thinking of former President Reagan's administration.

The groups published separate analyses in recent days, both urging that the flow of US aid to the guerrillas be used as a lever to strengthen moderate elements in the guerrilla coalition hoping to oust the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

Both the groups criticised US authorities as passively leaving it to Pakistan to channel the bulk of clandestine arms to aid the guerrillas' Muslim fundamentalist faction — with a result of strengthening the most radical group, known as Hezb-i-Islami, regarded as a favourite of the late Pakistani President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq.

Asia Watch also voiced con-

cern that the Pakistan military and other outside forces were pressing guerrilla commanders inside Afghanistan to mount "indiscriminate attacks on major cities" in violation of the Geneva conventions protecting unarmed civilians.

Noting that it has long criticised wanton Soviet military attacks against unarmed civilians in Afghanistan, Asia Watch said it now urges the United States "as a party to the Geneva conventions to use its influence with Pakistan to prevent pressure on resistance commanders to undertake indiscriminate attacks on civilian areas, especially as US-supplied weapons would play a major role in such attacks."

Pakistan, the United States and Iran have supported the Afghan guerrillas, who began fighting in 1978 after the communists took power in a coup. In 1979, the Soviets sent troops into Afghanistan to bolster the pro-Marxist government.

Under a UN-mediated accord, all Soviet troops were withdrawn from Afghanistan by Feb 15.

Asia Watch said many foreign patrons of the resistance "are also preventing some Afghans from exercising that right, in particular those Afghans who favour a temporary return of King Zahir Shah" as a unifying force, Asia Watch said.

"Pakistan and Iran have

together prevented Zahir Shah from having direct contact with the Afghan refugees," it continues.

The other study, by Heritage Foundation senior analyst James Phillips, said Hezmatyar, encouraged by backing from Pakistan, "has elevated his personal political ambitions over the common struggle" against the Afghan communists.

"The US should not help this anti-Western radical to achieve domination. Washington should reduce the disproportionately large share of assistance that his Hezbi now receives and shift resources" to more moderate guerrilla groups, it said.

President Bush's administration "should shift the flow of its aid to facilitate the formation of a broad non-communist coalition government and work with Pakistan...to minimise Afghan factionalism," Phillips said. He reminded that the Soviet Army remains "poised along Afghanistan's northern border. The Afghans must make a long-term unified effort to keep them from recrossing that border. If the mujahedeen fall into political bickering, then their military victory will be put in jeopardy."

Another step urged in the Phillips report was breaking off US relations with Kabul and recognising the guerrilla provisional coalition government as the legitimate government of Afghanistan.

By Simon Haydon

PARIS. (Reuters). A candidate in French city hall elections later this month has been told he cannot have 17 friends living fictitiously in his Paris campaign offices.

In Corsica, watchdog groups have been established to ensure that dead citizens do not return from the grave to cast their votes in the elections.

Around the country, six elections in the past year have revealed electoral fraud on a massive scale that few political parties appear anxious to study too closely.

"France is the only country in Europe where electoral fraud is still a scandal for the sole and sad reason that it does not exist elsewhere," the daily Liberation wrote in a two-page report last month.

Spokesmen for France's three main political parties refused to comment on allegations about their candidates.

The importance of municipal elections being held on March 12 and 19 is that French politicians traditionally use the post of mayor as a launching pad for national politics. City hall becomes their power base for local support and funding.

#### Fraud

An anti-fraud law was unanimously approved in parliament last December. Parliamentarian Michel Sapin, who drew up the legislation, said fraud was doing untold damage to France's democratic reputation.

"It's just impossible to estimate the quantitative extent of electoral fraud," he said.

According to independent experts and officials who say they have been victims of vote-rigging, just about anything goes in an electoral system that is easy to manipulate.

### Iran-Soviet relations

By Lee Stokes

MANAMA. (UPI). Iran's use of the Soviet card to play off Moscow against the West could produce short-term benefits for both nations, but the relationship also is likely to cause headaches for both sides.

For Ayatollah Khomeini, Iran's Islamic ruler, the turn toward the Soviets in his unprecedented talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze last week forms part of a wider immediate strategy of keeping his potential adversaries at home and abroad off balance.

In the past, it was impossible for Iran's Islamic-based government to have a meaningful relationship with the Kremlin because of the Soviet presence in Muslim Afghanistan and Moscow's support for Iraq during the Gulf war.

Relations between Iran and the West began to improve with the end of the Gulf war, generating assumptions that moderates were gaining the upper hand in the mercurial nation.

#### Change

In one stroke, Khomeini changed all that with his surprise call for the assassination of Indian-born author Salman Rushdie for blaspheming Islam in his book, "The Satanic Verses," leading to a sharp downturn in Western ties.

Enter the Soviet Union. Shevardnadze is the first Soviet Foreign Minister to visit Iran in 70 years, and the first senior non-Muslim official to have an audience with Khomeini since he came to power a decade ago.

Despite his slogan, "No East, no West," Khomeini has shown he realizes he cannot allow himself to be isolated from both camps.

In his meeting last week with Shevardnadze, Khomeini welcomed "stronger ties" with Moscow to confront "the devilish acts of the West."

## Electoral fraud common in France

The satirical weekly Le Canard Enchaîné, well-known in France for its tireless tracking of political corruption, has closely followed attempted vote-rigging in Paris.

The weekly's imagination was fired when investigative reporter Herve Liffman discovered residents of some of the capital's most fashionable districts were inexplicably moving home and appearing on electoral lists in the city's poorer areas.

#### Registered

Many of the people, according to Liffman, were registered at the same address, and these often turned out to be campaign offices for the politician seeking election.

In fact the people had not moved house at all.

Last month a Paris court ruled that 17 people registered as living in the electoral campaign offices of former Conservative Minister Didier Bariani should be eliminated from voting lists.

The judge visited the two-roomed office in Paris' 20th Arrondissement (district) where Bariani is candidate in this month's elections, and ruled it was physically impossible for so many peoples to live there.

The 17 people included six members of Bariani's family, several local councillors and their families. Bariani's bodyguard and two of his secretaries.

The French Communist Party has most often been accused by opponents of electoral fraud, although most evidence suggests all parties have broken the electoral law.

## Short-term benefits for both nations

Khomeini also hopes the Soviets can press Iraq to make concessions at stalled Gulf peace talks and not resume hostilities.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hussein Musavi signed agreements with Shevardnadze to resume operations of a railway line linking Iran and the Soviet Union, and to increase natural gas exports to the Soviet Union.

"The Soviets and their allies can provide many, but not all the needs of Iran," especially in vital defence military equipment, one Gulf-based Western

diplomat said.

Iran will have to be careful not to become over-dependent on the Soviet Union in the event of Western sanctions over the Rushdie affair.

Khomeini's strategy could backfire if the Soviets gain a foothold in Iran and use that advantage if chaos erupts after Khomeini, 88, dies. Following his two-hour meeting with Shevardnadze, however, it appears the Iranian leader is not so near death as was once thought.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1722 — Afghanistan's Mir Mahmud starts war against Persia.
- 1765 — Britain's House of Lords passes Stamp Act to tax American colonies.
- 1865 — Canal is begun in the Netherlands to connect Amsterdam with North Sea.
- 1898 — United States refuses to support Britain in its conflict with Russia over loan to China.
- 1904 — Germany revises 1872 anti-Jesuit law to permit return of some members of the Roman Catholic Order.
- 1917 — Riots and strikes break out in St. Petersburg, marking start of Russian Revolution.
- 1949 — France recognizes non-communist Vietnam nationalists under Bao Dai as independent state within French Union.
- 1950 — Marshal Voroshilov announces Soviet possession of atomic bomb.
- 1954 — United States and Japan sign mutual defence agreement.
- 1957 — Ghana is admitted to United Nations.
- 1961 — British Commonwealth prime minister conference opens in London, and South Africa announces it will leave Commonwealth May 31.
- 1965 — United States lands 3,500 Marines in South Vietnam.
- 1969 — Soviet Union puts its Far East Army on alert as warning to China after frontier clash on Ussuri River.
- 1970 — Cyprus President Makarios escapes assassination when terrorist snipers shoot down his helicopter.
- 1986 — Guerrilla violence in Colombia takes seven lives on day prior to national elections.
- 1987 — Sri Lankan troops launch large new offensive, killing 11 Tamil militants in northern Jaffna peninsula.
- 1988 — UN Security Council speakers condemn South African's ban on anti-apartheid organizations.

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# One of those days ...

By Kathy Cuddihy

DO you ever get out of bed in the morning and know with absolute certainty that it's going to be one of those days? The knowledge has nothing to do with gut instinct, just pure and simple reality. You know what I mean. Like when you inadvertently spray shaving foam instead of deodorant onto your underarms.

Such ominous starts usually indicate that the rest of the day isn't going to get a whole lot better. Rather like a domino effect, once a bad day begins, it's pretty difficult to call a halt to the decline.

To show you what I mean, here are a few examples to forewarn the unsuspecting.

You know it's going to be a bad day when you can't find your favourite outfit in your closet. Investigations reveal that your son/daughter borrowed it last week as a costume for the drama rehearsals. Under interrogation, it comes out that the item in question is now stuffed in the bottom of a school locker because it "somehow" got a "tiny" tear.

You know it's going to be a bad day when your children give you ten minutes' notice that it's your turn to be the bus

monitor on the early morning school run. Unwashed, barely coiffed, and hastily dressed you scramble out of the house to fulfil a wretched obligation with as much low-key panache as you can muster. Charging up the bus steps, you are vividly reminded that this morning of the children's art fair. The usual bunch of bleary-eyed youngsters are now accompanied by their beady-eyed mothers...and all eyes are on you.

You know it's going to be a bad day when you pour the last of the milk on the last of the cereal...and the milk is sour.

You know it's going to be a bad day when your office advises you that they have "misplaced" your passport "temporarily". In real terms, this means they neglected to get your exit-re-entry visa in time for you to leave on the flight you've had booked for months. They didn't bother to mention the predicament sooner (when the situation could have been rectified), because it would only have caused you "unnecessary" concern.

You know it's going to be a bad day when your bank statement arrives and there's a huge balance...with a minus sign in front of it. It's bad enough trying to reconcile

your calculations with those of the bank under more favourable conditions, but the added pressure of an overdraft only serves to hinder any possible progress. To further aggravate a testy situation, your spouse can't figure out why the account should be in a debit position. After all, he/she never spends "that sort of money."

You know it's going to be a bad day when the telephone wakes you up at 5.00 am and it's either the wrong number or a long-distance call from friends who forgot about the time difference. Worse, they don't have anything important to say; they're just calling "to say hello."

You know it's going to be a bad day when none of your battery-operated gadgets work. After much fiddling and poking, you realize (rather foolishly) that the cause of the problem is the absence of batteries. With an intuition honed by experience, you accuse your son of the raid. He admits the error or his ways...and regrets he can't return the batteries until he remembers at whose house/which playground he left his collection of toys.

The frustration of the above situation is amplified one hundredfold when you are at an important

interview and neither your camera nor your tape recorder can be made to perform. You put fresh batteries into both pieces of equipment, but guess whose toys needed a power-source replenishment?

Pet owners perhaps run a greater risk than the rest of us of having a bad day. The possibilities of disaster are quite limitless, but the following illustrations amply highlight my point. Consider, for example, the person who groggily gets out of bed and is sharply awakened by the sensation of cat poo-poo squishing between his toes. Only slightly better off is the late-for-work individual who can't find his second shoe. The mystery resolves itself when the family dog appears with leather remnants in his muzzle.

You know it's going to be a bad day when your editor calls and nags you to "produce more, produce more." Already overworked and underpaid, you make the tactical mistake of telling him exactly what you think, putting yourself in the position of being overworked with no pay. Ever the optimist, though, you realize you will now have the time to devote to that award-winning novel you have inside you. Maybe it's not going to be such a bad day after all.



The UK Houses of Parliament and the chief participants (inset) in the John Profumo scandal which nearly brought down the government of Harold Macmillan.

## Profumo scandal rocks Britain again

By Alan Baldwin

LONDON, (Reuters): A quarter of a century on, The Profumo Affair can still ruffle feathers in Britain.

The scandal rocked the government of Prime Minister Harold Macmillan by linking one of his cabinet ministers with lurid tales of upper class orgies, prostitutes and a beautiful girl who also slept with a Soviet diplomat.

John Profumo resigned in disgrace as minister for war in 1963 after confessing that he lied to Parliament about his relationship with Christine Keeler, and now a film has been made about those involved in the scandal.

A major character in the film — as he was in the actual scandal — is society osteopath Stephen Ward, who committed suicide during his highly-publicised trial for allegedly living off the immoral earnings of prostitutes.

### Affair

Six years in the making, the Scandal has been strongly attacked, even before it was released, by friends of Profumo, who is now aged 73 and has devoted much of his time since resigning to charity work.

"I think the film will be very painful for Mr Profumo and his family. It all happened a long time ago and it should be left alone," James Thompson, Bishop of Stepney and a friend of Profumo, said last year.

Breaking at the height of the cold war, the affair involved Profumo, Soviet assistant naval attaché Eugene Ivanov and the 19-year-old Keeler who says she had sex with both in 1961. It led to allegations that British security had been at risk. Profumo told the House of Commons in March, 1963 that there had been "no impropriety" in his relationship with Keeler. Just over two months later he admitted he had lied and resigned.

The scandal damaged the Conservative government and contributed to its defeat in an election the following year. The film prompted fresh controversy even before its release in Britain last week.

"Mr Profumo was unfortunate. He made a mistake. He suffered quite enough," Lord Denning, who was official investigator into the affair, said in a recent interview.

Ian McKellen, who plays Profumo in the film, says he has had letters saying "you should be ashamed of yourself for bringing up the past of a man who has surely paid his debt to society". "But in the end I thought the themes... were more important than the comfort and the privacy of one man's life," he said.

The themes are the hypocrisy of the British establishment and its tendency to close ranks when threatened.

Profumo himself said in February 1987: "I have remained

silent for 22 years. I intend to continue doing so."

Producer Stephen Woolley told Reuters he believed the film, due to be released in the United States in April, portrayed Profumo quite sympathetically.

"The fact that we said what happened is what is annoying people, it isn't the fact that it's anti-Profumo," he said.

Woolley said the film was not centred on Profumo, partly because much of what happened is still shrouded in secrecy, but on the relationship between Keeler and Ward.

"This film is basically a love story (between Keeler and Ward). It isn't sleaze or a trashy, vulgar movie," he said.

In a new autobiography, Keeler describes her relationship with the 50-year-old Ward as platonic — "like brother and sister".

### Depraved

"People have said that Stephen led a depraved and disolute existence, but during the time I knew and lived with him, though he could hardly be described as a paragon of virtue, he was always a kind, sympathetic father-figure," she writes.

Reviews of the film have been generally favourable. The Daily Telegraph said the story had lost none of its power to fascinate, "but there was certainly a danger that the film would be a shabby little shocker. It is not."

"Though the film has its peephole moments, it never succumbs to them," the Guardian said. "(It) manages to suggest that what happened a quarter of a century ago is still totally relevant."

Ward, played by John Hurt in the film, was a man who counted Winston Churchill among his patients and who also painted portraits of members of the royal family.

He introduced Keeler, played in the film by Joanne Whalley-Kilmer, to Profumo as she romped naked around a pool at Cliveden, the late Lord Astor's stately home near London.

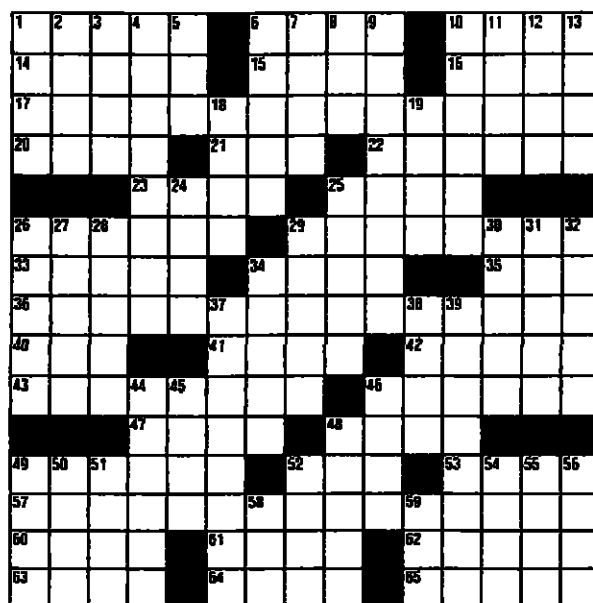
In her autobiography, Keeler describes how she and Ward went from polished high society dinner parties, where the guests dined off the meal with naked sex romps, to seedy dives in search of drugs and prostitutes.

Ward, seen by the film as the true casualty of the affair, was prosecuted, but killed himself before the verdict. "I'm sorry to disappoint the vultures," he said in a letter to a friend.

The film also stars American actress Bridget Fonda, daughter of Peter and niece of Jane, as Keeler's friend and flatmate Mandy Rice-Davies.

It was Rice-Davies who, when told at Ward's trial that Lord Astor denied having sex with her, uttered one of the most memorable lines of the affair when she replied: "Well, he would, wouldn't he?"

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Having wings
  - 6 — Alonzo Stagg
  - 10 There ought to be —
  - 14 Carpenter tool
  - 15 Record
  - 16 Novel type
  - 17 Timely prod?
  - 20 Most
  - 21 Sound from Sandy
  - 22 Outwitted
  - 23 Precipitation
  - 25 Take — view of
  - 26 It's — (bargain)
  - 28 With drollery
  - 33 "Beau Geste" actor J. Carrol
  - 34 Caspian Sea feeder
  - 35 Venice canals
  - 36 Vegetarian ophidian?
  - 40 Listening device
  - 41 "How the Other Half Lives" author
  - 42 Ship of the desert
  - 43 Green onions
  - 46 — gown (regalia)
  - 47 — kleine Nachtmusik
  - 48 Roman patriot
  - 49 Shun
  - 52 Palindromic nickname
- DOWN**
- 1 — mater
  - 2 Vientiane's country
  - 3 Meter or sphere
  - 4 Fourth Estate
  - 5 Velvet ending
  - 6 Bedeck
  - 7 Annoy
  - 8 Bone: Comb. form
  - 9 Plan
  - 10 Take the liberty
  - 11 Calli.
  - 12 peacekeepers
  - 13 Rachel of "The Thornbirds"
  - 18 Comet feature
  - 19 Ivy leaguers
  - 24 Pleasurable sounds
  - 25 Nanking nannies
  - 26 Cherbourg cherubs
  - 27 Prince
  - 28 Part of
- THE WIZARD OF ID**
- 29 — I: Science is We
  - 30 Play
  - 31 Contrast
  - 32 Gleanings
  - 34 Come together
  - 37 William Kennedy's Pulitzer novel
  - 38 Scram
  - 39 "The Little Corporal"
  - 44 MacNeill's partner
  - 45 Untruths
  - 46 Self-defeating word
  - 48 Reiner and namesakes
  - 49 Geol. epoch
  - 50 Cleaning agent
  - 51 Treat a ham
  - 52 Sentence subject
  - 54 Hair style
  - 55 Duo
  - 56 Marine predator
  - 58 Sunshine st.
  - 59 Time abbr.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

### GO FOR THE QUICK TRICK

Both vulnerable. North deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ A K Q J  
♥ 6 3  
♦ A K 10 6 5  
♣ A Q

**WEST**  
♠ 8 6 3  
♥ Q 10 7 5 2  
♦ Q  
♣ K 8 4 2

**EAST**  
♠ 10 7 5  
♥ K J 9 4  
♦ J 9 8  
♣ 7 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ 9 4 2  
♥ A 8  
♦ 7 4 3 2  
♣ J 10 9 5

The bidding:  
North East South West  
2 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass  
3 ♣ Pass 3 NT Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠. It is difficult to solve a problem if you don't know that one exists. If that sounds somewhat paradoxical, read on.

There is little about the bidding that appeals to us. North's demand bid of two diamonds is a stretch, although we concede that his is not an easy hand to bid. South's decision to rebid three no trump rather than take a diamond preference is a mystery to us. Observe that, as the cards lie, six diamonds makes (declarer wins the heart opening, cashes two high trumps and four spades, discarding dummy's losing heart, then takes the club finesse).

South's play matched his bid.

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

RAF	EXUDE	SASS
OXIS	XEROX	EXPO
MEDI	INDIA	ILEX
ALEXIS	UNMIXED	
TOTS	GINA	
EXPENSES	NOSHOW	
XERES	NIXES	ELA
ANON	VEXED	CLIX
MIX	BOXER	DELVE
SAYFOR	SIDERAD	
LOITA	CRUX	
REXREED	EXETER	
FOXX	XRAYS	SAXE
LUGE	EINES	IXIA
AXIS	SLEEPY	ITE

ding. He won the heart opening lead and now had to run nine tricks before the opponents gained the lead, since they were poised to run off at least four more heart tricks. He cashed the ace-king of diamonds, but when that suit didn't break he was stuck in dummy and could collect no more than eight tricks.

It is a natural tendency to go after your long suit first and, had there been another entry to South's hand, he would have been right to tackle diamonds first in case the suit did split evenly.

However, a 2-2 diamond break is only a 40 percent chance. The alternative is a club finesse, which is a 50 percent shot. Since declarer is in his hand for the first and last time at trick one, he should lead a club to the queen. When that succeeds, he has boosted his total tricks to nine.



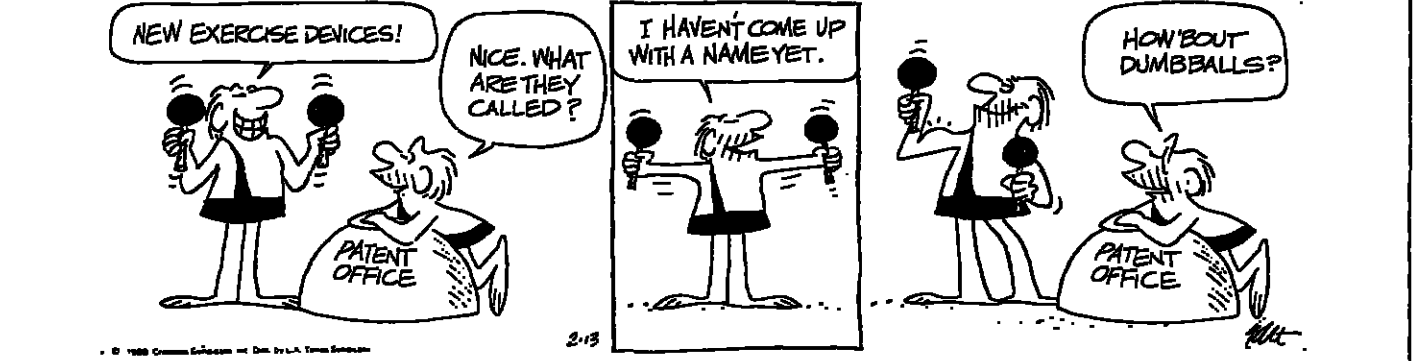
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

**Aries** (March 20 - April 18)

You should not try to use force where persuasion has not got you anywhere. The Moon's influence will tend to help you keep your temper under control. There is no point in berating yourself for your deficiencies. try to overcome them. Be punctual.

**Cancer** (June 21 - July 21)

You should not allow your mind to get into a rut. remain aware of change and new developments. Avoid believing all you hear, but do not be too sceptical either. Show a little more respect for your elders — you will be one of them one day. Be tolerant.

**Libra** (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should not spend too much time browsing and window-shopping, but if you enjoy it you need not eschew it altogether. You should have a little more faith in yourself and stick to your principles. Avoid spending too much on trivialities. Be objective.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

The influences are mixed but you will be able to do something you had long wanted to do. Do not however allow yourself to neglect what also has to be done. Avoid getting involved in what does not concern you. Be tactful.

**Taurus** (April 19 - May 19)

You should not allow yourself to become flustered — if you do you will only mistakes. You should try to find a little more time for reading and listening to music. Do a friend a favour. Be precise.

**Leo** (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will be rather fed up with doing something that has to be done, but there is no point in trying to evade it. Do not eat merely out of boredom. Take good care of your health. Be less argumentative.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to rid yourself of some annoying distraction. And you should not allow others to be too great a nuisance to you. Do not cut yourself off from others and retire into yourself. Be sincere.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be better able to grasp the significance of the situation. You should think once again before finally deciding on what to do. No need to have doubts, you have done your level best. Be attentive.

**Gemini** (May 20 - June 20)

You are liable to get excited at the slightest provocation and should do all you can to calm yourself. Remember that nothing is as important as your health and safety. Make a phone call now, rather than when it is too late. Be pertinent.

**Virgo** (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

A phone call you have been expecting will not come until later. Do not worry the bad news you had feared will come. You should try to rid yourself of some preconceptions. Be cordial.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

A letter you have waited for will come but will not contain quite the news you had hoped for. You are rather too liable to delude yourself into thinking what you would like to be is. Others will be more prepared to help you. Be reliable.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Something that needs to be done before a certain date should be done soon but without delaying what has to be done now. The Moon's better influence will help you to do something more positive. An offer or proposal should be considered most carefully. Be sensible.



By Judy Byrne

THE latest round of hostilities to break out among the big name, big earners of showbiz is... Scent Wars.

There are megabucks to be made from the big smell sell with the right image attached. Sniff and tell, where a star links her name with a fragrance and puts her full promotional weight behind it, is a massive growth industry today.

Liz Taylor's 'Passion' shares a rolling bandwagon with Cher's 'Uninhibited', Paula Yates' 'Paula', and Joan Collins' 'Scoundrel'. And if perfume was once synonymous with femininity, the business is no longer a women-only affair.

Bjorn Borg has a male fragrance of his own and Julio Iglesias and Mikhail Baryshnikov are working on them.

It was Elizabeth Taylor who won the first round in the hype war when she set out on an all-American tour to push 'Passion'. For weeks, her face was everywhere.

It beamed out from billboards and magazine covers. And you could not turn on the television set without seeing her in an advertisement or on a chat show.

The tinsel and glitter launch cost an estimated £10,000,000. But it was money well spent. The scent, selling at a heady £125 for a 1 oz (28g) bottle, was reputed to have made nearly £20,000,000 in its first four months.

The following month, her multi-millionaire publisher man-of-the-moment, Malcolm Forbes, gave her a gift of a purple Harley Davidson motorbike worth £3,000, with the witty inscription "Liz Taylor's Passion".

Problems

But Passion brought problems for Liz Taylor, too. The first was that she was too busy with the promotion to make it to New York to see her actor son, Michael Wilding Jr, in his latest play. She solved that by flying the entire cast to California. And they did a star command performance for her in her own living room.

Problem Number Two came from ex-boyfriend Harry Wynnberg who says that when they were together Elizabeth Taylor agreed to give him exclusive rights to sell her products, an arrangement which he considers still in force.

According to friends, Ms Taylor's response was: "When will this irritating man leave me alone?"

# How the megastars are making millions with a fragrance

## Sniff and tell — a massive growth industry



Elizabeth Taylor: promoting Passion

But Wynnberg is determined to pursue her through the courts for £3,000,000, plus 60 per cent of the profits. And Wynnberg, now married to Clint Eastwood's ex-wife, Maggie, says he will fight to the bitter end.

If Elizabeth Taylor found having a little free time a problem, Joan Collins must have found the same but more so. But then Joan is a human dynamo whose pace leaves husbands, friends and employees exhausted in her wake.

Promoted Besides the long filming days that begin at 5 am on the soap set, Dynasty star Joan has written the best-selling novel Prime Time between making her own mini-series and running her own business empire.

Filming alone is reckoned now to make her more than £1,000,000 a year. But her off-screen activities make her even more.

And she has not just had the sweet smell of success with

'Scoundrel'. She has promoted Revlon cosmetics, airline tickets, kitchen gadgets, a building society, mobile telephones, dressmaking patterns, and sexy underwear.

And besides promoting other people's products, she has somehow found the time to oversee the launch of some of her own, including the 'Joan Collins' Jewellery Collection' and the 'Joan Collins' Home Video Selection, old movies introduced by the perennial star.

Insiders say she drives as shrewd and tough a bargain as scheming Alexis whom she plays in Dynasty. As one of them put it: "She used to be naive about money and was ripped off dozens of times."

"But the one good thing she still has from her marriage to Peter Holm is that he taught her how to make a good deal."

There is a Joan Collins franchise company, based in East Sussex, which scours the UK and Europe for potential busi-

Liz Taylor has 'Passion', Cher's is called 'Uninhibited' and 'Scoundrel' is linked with Joan Collins — all fragrances that they have launched and have earned them millions. Now major male celebrities are also getting in on the act.



Joan Collins: sweet smell of success with 'Scoundrel'

ness. And it has for bait one very saleable lady.

But it is not to these behind-the-scenes nuts and bolts that the attention of potential punters is drawn by the big hype that surrounds each new celebrity launch.

What the potential customer must be persuaded to want to buy is not a bottle of perfume but a slice of the glamour that surrounds the star, too.

Says a psychologist who has made a study of marketing: "Every woman who buys a bottle of 'Passion' is indulging a fantasy that she will become as attractive to men as Liz Taylor is."

"Or if she goes for 'Scoundrel', she yearns to see that wickedly evergreen Joan Collins looking back at her from the mirror or reflected back in the eyes of an endless string of admirers."



Getting into the act: (above and below) Baryshnikov and Julio Iglesias

star sell." Cher seems to think so, too. The singer-turned-Oscar-winning actress turned up in an appropriately see-through Egyptian-style costume for the New York launch of Uninhibited, which the makers promise will be as exciting as Cher herself.

She is certainly not plagued by inhibitions herself. Her clothes often reveal almost as much as they conceal of the body that has stayed in quite remarkable shape for its 42 years.

Hollywood opinion is divided as to how much it owes to the assistance of the plastic surgeon's knife.

But Cher has certainly come a long way since the days when she was just one half of the successful singing duo Sonny and Cher, with Sonny, she says, very much the one in control.

Now Cher is firmly in control of her own destiny. And the campaign for Uninhibited has given magazine



Paula Yates: wife of Bob Geldof promoting Paula, the fragrance

readers in the US the chance to scratch away at her navel! A sample of the scent was concealed there in a special series of "scratch 'n' sniff" advertisements.

But if they like it, they certainly have to pay dear for it — £150 an ounce (28g).

Such campaigns tend to be done in a much lower key in Britain where Paula Yates, wife of Bob Geldof, has put her name behind Paula.

The fragrance Paula, a heady mix of French oils and spices, is sold only through a mail order company, Grattan.

And not only the price suggests that it is aimed at a younger market than Passion, Scoundrel and Uninhibited. Although Geldof has been better known than Paula since he

launched Band Aid to feed the starving of Ethiopia, Paula has a young following of her own from her television pop show. And she is a self-confessed flirt.

"It's my hobby," says Paula, who sports a tattoo on her arm, is about to publish her first novel, has a chat show and two documentary series on the go, and plans to follow Paula the fragrance with her own range of romantic lingerie, all to her own designs.

Talent

First of the men to spot the "cash in smell" was Bjorn Borg, who has turned out to have as much of a talent for business strokes as he did for backhand strokes on the tennis court.

Borg, who owes his multimillionaire status more to

product endorsement than to his impressive record of tennis tournament prize money, markets his own name now to link with products from the Bjorn Borg Design Group. He has two men's toiletries ranges called Signature and 6-0.

And the good news for him and others like him is not just that men now care how they smell and are prepared to pay for his products. Exotic men's after shave and eau de cologne is also all the rage with teen-age girls who are turning up their noses at more traditional women's perfumes.

Which is good news for Julio Iglesias and Mikhail Baryshnikov, whose own scents will be launched soon.

Russian-born Baryshnikov is said to have accepted a million dollars from an American cosmetics company to put his name to their new product on condition they never sell it in his homeland.

Decision

Perhaps his decision to cash in on endorsing a product owes something to anxiety about his dancing future. In the short-term, he is worried about a knee which needed an operation a few months ago. In the longer-term, dancing is at best a limited career.

Already, he has attempted to launch a parallel acting career. But a little extra insurance in the bank would no doubt not go amiss.

Singer Julio Iglesias, once told he had failed the audition for his school choir, certainly does not have a cash problem. He is reckoned to have made £75,000,000 world-wide from the sale of 100 million albums. But he certainly has an expensive lifestyle to support. He reckons his weekly wine bill alone is £15,000.

He says: "I still love money. It is a measure of your success. It also makes life easier for me. I have a private jet which lets me go where I want to go quickly."

But it is not just the glamorous and famous celebrity link that is currently selling scent. Almost every designer label has one. And so does every jeweller from Tiffany and Cartier to Paloma Picasso. Business has never been brisker.

Lovely Audrey Hepburn once had one — L'Interdit, or Forbidden — specially created for her by couturier Hubert de Givenchy who marketed it with a label saying it was forbidden to anyone but her.

She could never have known then quite what a trend she was starting.

## Tobacco industry pursues the teen market

By Catherine Foster

BOSTON: Teen-agers see healthy young people engaged in sports in slick cigarette ads splashed throughout the magazines they read. At concerts and sports events, they're greeted by the logos of sponsoring tobacco companies as well as announcements of brand names. As they enter sports arenas and state fairs, free cigarette samples are pressed on them.

Despite denials by the tobacco industry, there are strong indications that it is aggressively pursuing the teen market. Health officials say that's because the industry must replenish the stock of smokers it loses to death and quitting.

Smoking causes 350,000 premature deaths a year, according to the United States Public Health Service. Since the surgeon general's report on the health hazards of smoking in 1964, the percentage of smok-

ers in the US population has dropped. And 1.5 million people quit every year.

But as many as 2 million teen-agers continue to smoke. While only 10 percent of teens as a whole smoke, almost a third of older teens do. And bucking a long-term trend, older teen girls are now smoking more than older teen boys.

Advertising

Some health officials and politicians are calling for a ban on cigarette advertising and promotion. The House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment is holding hearings on a bill by Rep. Michael Synar (D) of Oklahoma that would ban the advertising of tobacco products in newspapers and magazines, on billboards, and as part of sales displays, as well as its promotion.

The Tobacco Institute, a trade association for the industry, will testify against the ban. It is expected to say that its advertising is not meant to

appeal to teens, that it's just to promote brand loyalty and brand switching in adults. It will also stress that such a ban violates First Amendment guarantees of free speech.

The bill, first introduced last year, was reintroduced this year and is now pending in this House subcommittee. Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D) of California, chairman of the subcommittee, says, "The important thing to realize is the way these companies have been able to sustain themselves in light of millions who have given up smoking. (The tobacco companies) concentrate their advertising and promotion to ward young people so they can get addicted and stay with it."

He adds, "That's why I think it's important to cut off the ability of the tobacco industry to promote this dangerous product."

The ban is a bold move. There's never been a ban on advertising a legal product before, a fact that Scott Stapf,

assistant to the president of the Tobacco Institute, says is why the bill hasn't passed yet, and why there is no equivalent bill in the Senate. Last year the administration was split on the bill: then-chief of Staff Donald Regan blocked a plan by Surgeon General Everett Koop to testify for a ban. Mr. Koop did eventually testify.

Koop has often linked smoking to cancer and has called for a "smoke-free society" by the year 2000.

But proponents say that such a strong measure is necessary because the industry, in violation of its own code of ethics, is pursuing the teen market.

"If they're not trying to appeal to kids, why are they advertising in Rolling Stone magazine?" says Alan Blum, founder and chairman of Doctors Who Care, a physicians' health-promotion organization.

Since 90 percent of all smokers start by the time they're 20, according to Office of Smoking

and Health figures, there's more incentive to draw the teen-age market, ban proponents say. "Teen girls are the only growth market," says an aide to Representative Synar. "If they don't get them by the time they're 20, it's all over."

The industry is opposed to smoking by youths, and has stated so far over 20 years," counters Mr. Stapf, citing a school program sponsored by the industry in conjunction with the National Association of State Boards of Education called "Helping Kids Say No," which is "designed to discourage teen-age smoking."

"There is no demonstrable evidence that advertising is the main factor in initiating smoking in teens," he adds. "Studies show that it's peer pressure and role models that are primarily responsible for teen smoking."

Influence

"No one is arguing that advertising and promotion are the only influence on cigarette consumption," says Dr. Blum. "But advertising is the most policy-tractable."

The industry, charges Blum and others, is not policing itself. He points out that its own code states that there shall be no advertising in publications directed primarily to those under 21 years of age, that no one depicted in the ads shall be or appear to be under 21, and that ads shall not suggest that "smoking is essential to social prominence, distinction, success or sexual attraction."

But Virginia Ermer of the department of epidemiology in the University of California Medical School, San Francisco, says there is a whole slew of ads that show kids, such as Salem's surfing and playing volleyball ads, and Koal's young motorcycleists. "Kid behavior and kid clothing," says Dr. Ermer. And the ads with slightly more mature models appeal to kids, presenting alluring role models.

"Looking at contemporary ads, one sees a sense of independence, of being in control, of athleticism, attractiveness, and healthiness," spanning the spectrum of social desire, however one might define it," she says.



Teenagers see healthy young people engaged in sports in slick cigarette ads splashed throughout the magazines they read.

magazine," he says. "The industry has locked itself out of a number of publications because they are aimed at youthful readers."

The tobacco outreach into the marketplace is massive. More money is spent advertising and promoting cigarettes than any other product, according to the Federal Trade Commission: some \$2.1 billion a year.

Cigarettes are the single most advertised product on billboards. Cigarette advertising has been banned on television and radio since 1971. But cigarette billboards are often seen on television, strategically placed where cameras will pan past them every time a home run is hit or a field goal made.

The industry is also heavily into sponsorship of athletic and cultural events: the Kool Jazz Festival, Newport Jazz and Folk Festivals, Virginia Slims tennis tournaments, Winston Cup drag racing, Philip Morris sponsorship of the Joffrey Ballet's national tour and the Vatican art exhibit.

"They're spending large budgets in race-car driving, soccer games, things that are appealing to kids," says Michele Kling, spokeswoman for the American Lung Asso-

ciation.

The industry's code prohibits sample distribution within two blocs of schools, playgrounds, or college campuses. "That code of ethics is more honored in the breach," says Kenneth Warner at the University of Michigan. ABC's "20/20" showed samples being passed out in front of a sports arena.

Ban

Blum says that a ban alone won't do the trick. What's needed is counter-advertising. "We have been immunized by the industry to accept the image of the Marlboro man and the Virginia Slims woman," he says. "Banning wouldn't remove that. We need to counteract it in order to overcome the enormous persuasive power of the industry."

Mr. Waxman also suggests a hefty tax on cigarettes, to go for health-care costs. "At the least we shouldn't be giving a tax credit for this advertising. That means we're subsidizing it."

He says the chances of the bill's passage are "good, but it's going to be a difficult bill to move because of the strong opposition of a very powerful tobacco lobby and some of its allies."



FAMILY DOCTOR

By Dr. Ali An Bruckheim

## SURGERY FOR ANEURYSM IS RECOMMENDED

QUESTION: Following a recent severe heart attack, my father developed an aneurysm in his heart. We've discussed the situation with his doctor, who because of a gradual decline in dad's condition, is recommending surgery. We have tried to find out more about this condition, but we're getting confused since the same condition occurs in the brain and aorta. Is there any chance you can sort this out for our family?

ANSWER: To start sorting this out, let's define an aneurysm for you. The word comes from the Greek word that means formation in a weakened section of the wall of any artery, vein or the heart.

Aneurysms occur most frequently in the portion of the aorta (the largest artery in the body) that passes through the abdomen. They're found less frequently in the heart, the major blood vessels of the chest and the brain.

In your father's case, a portion of the muscle of the heart died when he had his heart attack. The artery leading to this section of the heart wall became blocked, probably by a blood clot, and the blood flow to the heart tissue stopped. Without the

oxygen and nutrients carried by the blood, the heart tissue could not survive.

During the healing process, the dead heart muscle was replaced by a thin scar, without the necessary strength to contain the pressure that develops each time the heart contracts. It's probably this area that is now bulging outward with each beat, forming a sac or aneurysm. This, in turn, reduces the ability of the remaining heart muscle to perform the vital function of pumping the blood to the body. When the heart works harder to compensate, it uses more oxygen, and if the supplies are inadequate, angina may develop, or heart failure can occur.

When the aneurysm is removed surgically, the efficiency of the heart is improved, angina disappears and your father's general condition will improve. Frequently, a cardiac artery bypass procedure is performed at the same time as the aneurysm is removed, to help improve the circulation to the heart.

In your reading, don't be confused by reference to arterial aneurysms, where the walls of the vessels are weakened by progressive atherosclerosis, or brain aneurysms,

which are the result of a congenital condition. The operation sounds well advised in your father's case and should be performed as soon as possible.

QUESTION: A member of our family has been diagnosed as having Shy-Drager Syndrome. I've been unable to find this in any medical reference book. In response to my questions, the doctors tell me that they're doing all they can and that this is a very rare disease. Can you explain and tell me if there is such a disease?

ANSWER: Indeed there is, and it is a rare disease. It occurs slowly and gradually in adults. The major problem is that the blood pressure drops when the patient tries to stand, but other symptoms include visual troubles, tremor and muscle wasting. Although the cause is still unknown, it's generally a progressive degenerative process of the central nervous system that eventually incapacitates the patient. Cortisone derivatives and salt are used to try to correct the low blood pressure, but there are no effective treatments known that can halt the progress of the neurological changes.

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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Bahrain-based Islamic bank reports rise in profit

BAHRAIN, March 7, (Reuters): Massraf Fayisal Al Islami of Bahrain, one of the island's two offshore Islamic banks, said today its 1988 net profit rose 24 per cent to \$4.3 million.

The bank, which is a subsidiary of the Bahamas-based Dar Al Maal Al Islami group, said in a statement its assets rose to \$73.8 million at end-1988 from \$69.9 million in 1987. No dividend was paid for either year.

"Despite the slowdown in economic activities of the region, the bank has continued to record consistent growth in all areas," the statement said. "Greater emphasis is being placed on merchant banking and development of marketable instruments."

**System**  
Islamic banks operate on a system of profit and loss sharing, avoiding interest-related financial instruments.

Along with the Jeddah-based Al Baraka, Dar Al Maal Al Islami is one of the two major Islamic banking groups in the world.

Both were established by Saudi investors, but carry out most of their operations outside Saudi Arabia.

## Sime Darby pre-tax profits surge

KUALA LUMPUR, March 7, (KUNA): Sime Darby, Malaysia's major conglomerate with Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) equity has turned in a sparkling interim performance, setting the diversified group well on course for another record year of profits, according to a report here today.

The report said the group's pre-tax profits were \$83.7 million for the half year to Dec 31, 1988, up 69 per cent from the \$49.5 million registered in the previous half year.

The results, said the report, were in line with analysts' expectations that Sime's earnings would increase by 50 to 80 per cent for the half year.

**Earnings**  
Group turnover also increased by 31 per cent to \$333 million from \$256 million previously. After tax and minorities, earnings were up 73 per cent to \$38 million. Extraordinary gains of \$12.3 million boosted attributable profits to \$50.3 million. The report said at the company level, pre-tax profits were 44 per cent higher at \$17.3 million, on an eight per cent rise in turnover to \$8.3 million.

The report quoted Sime's group chief executive Tunku Ahmad Bin Tunku Yahaya as saying that the results were very satisfactory, adding "we made a good improvement all round."

He said the improvement in the first half is expected to be maintained in the second half.

"If it is better, it's a bonus," he added.

## UK trade gap widens

LONDON, March 7, (LPS): Britain's trade was in deficit by nearly £1.7 billion in January as both exports and imports rose to record levels. The figures were marginally worse than London markets had anticipated, but the Treasury issued a press statement to highlight the good news behind the deficit — the third worst on record.

The Department of Trade and Industry said last week, that imports totalled £9,471 million in January, against an export total of £7,737 million, giving a balance of minus £2,092 million on visible (merchandise) trade.

**Deficit**  
A surplus of £400 million is assumed for invisible trade (shipping, finance and so on) so that the current account for the month is minus £1,699 million compared with minus £1,363 million in December. The total deficit last year was revised to £14,492 million.

The Treasury statement said: "One should not put too much emphasis on monthly payments in an erratic series. But latest figures confirm exports at record levels and continuing on an upward trend. Falls in imports of consumer goods in January are consistent with other evidence of slowing consumer demand."

"But imports of investment and production goods remain strong. Inevitably the current account is among the last indicators to respond to a tightening in monetary policy."

The markets reacted to this instantly as implying that the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not want interest rates to rise from the present base level of 13 per cent.

## Bonn bank to inject new funds into the market

## Bundesbank tender seen indicating steady rates

FRANKFURT, March 7, (Reuters): West German monetary authorities today signalled a halt to a recent sharp rise in interest rates in a move apparently designed to calm jittery financial markets.

The Bundesbank said it would inject new funds into the domestic money market at 5.8 per cent from tomorrow in an agreement lasting 35 days.

**Rates**  
That was 0.2 percentage points below its Lombard rate — an emergency funding facility from the central bank to commercial

banks — and well below the 6.5 per cent peak for overnight funds last week.

It was the first time since January 11 that the Bundesbank had set a new fixed-rate tender for a securities repurchase (Repo) agreement, its main instrument for steering the money market and short-term interest rates. The January 11 pact was for 28 days at five per cent.

Traders said the move had defused concern that the central bank was about to squeeze credit further in its drive to fight inflation and dampen consumer spending.

"The reaction was positive," said one money market dealer. "It was a relief and a sign that interest rates have peaked."

### Cost

The move triggered a sharp rise in the dollar as currency traders switched funds out of the West German mark, but the recently depressed West German share market failed to respond to the prospective steadier interest rates.

The cost of day-to-day funds in the money market did,

however, retreat. Call money slipped to 5.85 per cent after the tender news, from 5.9 on Monday and last week's highs of 6.5 per cent. The fixed 5.8 per cent Repo rate was sharply lower than the average 6.425 per cent allocated on a 35-day pact last week.

### Rise

Ulrich Hombrecht, economist at Westdeutsche Landesbank-Girozentrale, said the Bundesbank move appeared aimed at calming nervous markets after last week's speculation that

the Bundesbank would raise its six per cent Lombard rate.

"It is a clear sign we cannot reckon with a rate rise in the foreseeable future," he said. "The Bundesbank wants to wait and see how money growth reacts to the measures taken so far."

The Bundesbank raised key interest rates by half a percentage point on January 20, bringing the discount rate to four per cent and the Lombard rate to six per cent. Four weeks earlier it raised the Lombard rate from five to 5.5 per cent.

## \$450m US emergency loan for Venezuela

NEW YORK, March 7, (OPECNA): An emergency loan of \$450 million to Venezuela from the United States is expected to be ready "in a few days," it was reported here.

At the same time, a committee of 13 commercial banks, led by Chase Manhattan of New York, has completed talks with Venezuelan officials to add \$600 million to the sum, according to a bank official.

The banks, the US Treasury Department and a number of other countries which are expected to add several hundred million dollars more to the fund a little later are rallying behind the month-old government of Carlos Andres Perez after the outbreak of rioting that left an

estimated 300 people dead and 1,000 injured in Caracas and other cities.

### Loans

Final details of the treasury and bank loans should be settled around the middle of this week, officials said. Disbursement could begin immediately from the treasury and in 10 days to two weeks from the 50 to 60 participating American and non-American banks.

The \$450 million from the treasury and the \$600 million from the banks will be extended in the form of bridging loans — stop-gap financing to tide the country over until the parties involved settle on longer-term loans.

Spain and several other industrialised countries are expected to add more to the pool later. A bank official said Venezuela was seeking a total of \$1.20 billion, of which the treasury's contribution would be the largest.

### Stabilisation

The treasury loan, to be drawn from an exchange stabilisation fund that has been used for similar purposes to help Mexico and Argentina, would be repaid when Venezuela completes longer-term arrangements with the International Monetary Fund.

The fund's staff has tentatively agreed to grant Venezuela about \$450 million out of the \$1.10 billion it is seeking this year and about \$4.50 billion over three

years. However, the \$450 million cannot be disbursed until the IMF board approves it, probably in a month.

The treasury loan forms a bridge to the IMF loan. However, a dispatch from Tokyo today said Japanese commercial bank creditors were close to providing \$600 million in bridging finance to Venezuela.

"We are fully aware of the urgent need for helping Venezuela because of growing unrest there," said bank sources quoted by Reuters.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez said earlier today that he would not turn back from his economic austerity programme despite the recent unrest.

## India told to set up Asian common market

COLOMBO, March 7, (KUNA): Sri Lankan Minister of Foreign Affairs Ranjan Wijeratne has proposed to India the setting up of an Asian common market.

Wijeratne was thinking aloud when he met the Indian Minister of State for Industry M. Arunachalam in Colombo last week, sources said.

Wijeratne said: "This is only an idea; we will have to work out the details."

### Goods

In talks with the visiting Indian minister, the Lankan foreign minister also discussed more trade with India, especially the purchase of traditional goods, the sources added.

Wijeratne told his visitor from across the Palk Strait that an Asian common market could breach barriers as it has done in Europe through the European Common Market.

He said what is required is mutual trust and confidence among the Asian political leadership.

Political observers noted that the proposal could be worked out under the umbrella of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation) which groups Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal.

Wijeratne told the Indian minister there was a great need to collaborate more meaningfully in regard to the manufacture of tea, which is affected with mutual understanding will enhance prices and earn more foreign exchange for both India and Sri Lanka.

## Warner shares jump after merger with Time

NEW YORK, March 7, (Reuters): Wall Street applauded Warner Communications Inc.'s \$18 billion merger agreement with publisher Time Inc. to create the world's largest media company, but the magazine firm's stock fell on Monday as takeover speculation subsided.

In heavy early trading on the New York Stock Exchange, Time fell \$1.75 to \$107.375 while Warner jumped \$3.125 to \$49 as traders got their first chance to react to the weekend announcement.

**Commitment**  
Time shares had recently moved higher in anticipation that the company might receive a takeover bid for a minimum of \$120 a share. But the merger reduces the likelihood it will be acquired, causing the Time stock to fall.

Time and Warner officials, meeting on Monday with securities analysts, reaffirmed

their commitment to the stock-swap merger and said they would not consider any cash offers for either company.

"A cash deal would not work here," Warner chairman Steven Ross told analysts. "We are not for sale and never have been."

Time president Nicholas J. Nicholas Jr. also said the ratio of the stock swap would not be modified. "This deal will close as specified," he said.

Time touted the proposed transaction as a "true" merger of equals, but Time appears to come out of the deal holding a few more of the cards. Nicholas will become chief executive of the combined companies in five years.

**Transaction**  
Also pointing to Time's dominant position is the fact its shares will survive after the transaction, while Warner's will disappear. Under the deal, Warner stockholders will exchange each

of their shares for 0.465 Time shares.

Together, they become the world's largest media conglomerate with \$10 billion in combined revenues.

"This is an incredible combination of two giants — unprecedented," said Robert Maxwell, chairman of London-based newspaper publishing company Maxwell Communication Corp. PLC, who was in Philadelphia for an award presentation.

Time Warner will eclipse global leader Bertelsmann AG, of West Germany, which owns Doubleday in the United States and has worldwide sales of over \$6 billion.

"We need to form a company that could play on a global stage," Time Inc. vice-chairman Gerald Levin said on Sunday.

"We didn't have the option of standing still — Wall Street would have become impatient," Levin told Reuters. "So you can

shrink and go private with debt, but that doesn't promise any expansion, or you can merge or acquire to grow."

Under the deal both firms will immediately swap blocks of stock. Time will end up with a 9.5 per cent stake in Warner, and Warner with a 12 per cent stake in Time, Ross said. Such swaps tend to discourage third parties from takeover attempts.

Time has long been concerned about foreign takeovers of US media companies and laid out a strategy last autumn to remain independent through mergers, acquisitions or joint ventures. Warner has also said it wanted to grow to compete with a handful of media firms now operating around the world.

Time is America's largest magazine publisher with Time, People and Fortune, owns the second largest cable-TV system in the nation, and publishes

## Move to support prices

## Moscow vows to co-operate with other oil producers

MOSCOW, March 7, (Reuters): The Soviet Union is prepared to co-operate with other oil producers in curbing output to support world oil prices, Soviet officials said today.

On Friday the official Tass news agency reported that the Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer, would reduce output in the first half of 1989.

Yevgeny Karchevsky, an Oil Industry Ministry official, said the five-per-cent cut in hard currency exports amounted to about 100,000 barrels daily.

The cuts, marking the first time that Moscow has taken measures to support OPEC, do not affect oil shipped to the Soviet Union's East bloc allies.

**Contacts**  
Oil Industry Minister Vasili Dinkov told reporters at a news conference today the Soviet Union would pursue its contacts

with the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and other non-OPEC producers to maintain stable oil prices.

Grant Margulov, a senior official at the government's bureau for the fuel and power industries, added at the news conference that the Soviet Union "shared the concerns of other producers."

"We are prepared to engage in close co-operation," Margulov said. "We have taken this decision for the first half of the year. The future will show whether we will maintain this sort of co-operation."

**Experts**  
The Soviet Union sent observers to a meeting of non-OPEC experts in London last month where six nations — Egypt, Oman, China, North Yemen, Mexico and Malaysia — agreed to cut exports by five per

cent to support OPEC's efforts to buy world prices.

The reductions would not apply either to existing contracts or to those involving Eastern Europe, which tended to be carried out over long periods of time.

He said oil production for 1988 stood at 624 million tonnes, the same as in the previous year, and plans called for production to be maintained at about the same level.

### Prices

Soviet economists, he said, viewed a price of about \$20 a barrel as sufficient to make production viable at all known deposits.

"With higher prices, we could start looking at more remote areas where high investment on infrastructure would be required," he said.

## New Mercedes sports car could boost flagging image

GENEVA, March 7, (Reuters): West German luxury car maker Mercedes-Benz, losing sales in its most important markets, on Monday unveiled a sports car which it hopes will re-establish its reputation as a leader in technology and design.

The two-seater convertible SL made its debut to the press in Geneva ahead of the prestigious 59th Geneva International Motor Show which opens on March 9.

Powered by a choice of three-litre six-cylinder engines or a five-litre V8, the new SL is packed with the latest technological gimmickry. Prices start at around \$68,000.

It has an automatic roll-over bar stored under the seats. When the car's computer senses that an accident is about to happen, the roll-over bar is automatically triggered.

### Position

"Within 0.3 seconds — the time it takes to blink — the roll-over bar self-activates and locks into an upright position to protect the occupants," Mercedes said.

The roll-over bar, which is hidden to improve the car's looks, can also be raised at the touch of a button.

The suspension is also controlled by the computer, changing the degree of firmness depending on road conditions. If the road is straight the suspension softens, if the car senses a curve it stiffens. When the car exceeds 75 miles per hour (120 kph) it is automatically lowered.

Mercedes, a subsidiary of West Germany's largest car company, Daimler-Benz AG, has been making SL sports cars since the 1954 debut of the so-called "Gull Wing", a hard-top two-seater with doors hinging down the centre of the roof.

### Loading

Recently, the company has been losing market share to rival West German car maker BMW. "Daimler's current model line is showing signs of age, and competition continues to increase, especially from BMW," says Stephen Reitman, European motor

analyst at London stockbrokers UBS Phillips and Drew.

Last year Mercedes car sales in Germany fell 3.7 per cent to 278,830, while US sales slipped 6.9 per cent to around 84,000.

Sales of the SL start in West Germany in June. It will make 22,000 of the model a year, with most going to the US market.

Even though the numbers are small, the car is important as an image maker for Mercedes.

"Mercedes is suffering because its range seems to be ageing compared with its main rival BMW," said Gavin Lauder, motor industry analyst for London stockbrokers Kleinwort Greaveson.

### Launch

"The SL launch is important even though they won't sell many," said Philip Aytton, European motor analyst with London brokers Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

## Nigeria prepares three more companies for privatisation

LAGOS, March 7, (Reuters): Nigeria, trying to help its debt-burdened economy by stimulating private enterprise, is preparing three more companies for full or partial privatisation.

State radio reported yesterday government shares in National Oil and Chemical Company Ltd, Aba Textile Mills and United Nigeria Insurance Co Ltd, should be ready to go on sale to the public between April and June.

National Oil, now 60 per cent government-owned, is set for partial privatisation. The other two companies will be fully privatised.

### Exercise

The privatisation exercise, which mirrors sales of state enterprises in Britain and other countries, began in January with the sale of 6.9 million government-held shares in Flour Mills of Nigeria Ltd.

## World Business Summary

## Economist proposes capitalistic reforms

NEW YORK, March 7, (Reuters): The Soviet budget deficit has "reached the danger zone" and will rise above the equivalent of \$160 billion in 1989, a key economic adviser to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said in an interview published on Sunday. Abel Aganbegyan, head of the economic section of the USSR Academy of Sciences, was quoted in an interview with the US magazine Newsweek as saying the Soviet economy had difficulties in all directions, "but the most critical is the deficit." "It has grown sharply and reached the danger zone," he said, adding that it would exceed 100 billion roubles (\$160 billion at the official exchange rate) in 1989, approximately the same level as the US budget deficit. Aganbegyan called for capitalistic measures such as progressive income taxes, more consumer goods, and the creation of a deluxe trade to cut the Soviet deficit. As near-term reforms, Aganbegyan told the magazine that salary increases should be controlled and income taxes should be changed from the current 13 per cent for all to a progressive income tax with a top rate of 30 per cent. But it was "more important", he said, to increase supply. "We can expand housing construction by reducing industrial construction. And in my opinion, one third of the new housing should be sold ... this could reduce the deficit by 20 billion roubles" (\$32 billion). He said supplying the demand for cars and garage space would reduce the deficit by another 20 billion roubles, and increasing state production of video, audio and computer equipment "possibly through joint ventures with foreign firms," could reduce it by 15 billion (\$24 billion). "Doubling imports of consumer goods would mean another 10 billion," (\$16 billion) the Soviet economist told Newsweek. Aganbegyan said food subsidies should be reduced, and he added: "Prices on meat, dairy products and bread may have to double" in order to make agricultural products profitable. To increase the incentive to earn money, the Soviet economist made a clearly uncommunist suggestion — the creation of a deluxe trade.

## Rockwell fined for defence fraud

LOS ANGELES, March 7, (AP): Rockwell International Corp. was fined \$5.5 million yesterday for double-billing the US Defence Department on a navigation satellite. The company, which pleaded guilty to conspiracy and contempt of court in the case but maintained it was innocent, vowed to appeal the US district court fine. The \$2.5 billion case involved a conspiracy among some of its managers to double bill the Air Force by approximately \$450,000 on the Navstar navigation satellite system between 1982 and 1984. US district judge Consuelo Marshall ordered a \$5-million fine for a contempt of court charge brought against Rockwell because the terms of the settlement of an earlier, unrelated case barred the company from fraudulent billing. The fine for contempt of court is unlimited. Rockwell also was sentenced to five years' probation. The company's attorney, James Neal, said Rockwell would appeal the fine. On Jan 19, Rockwell entered a conditional plea of guilty to the charges in an agreement with prosecutors under which a number of related charges were dismissed. Neal maintained the fraud was perpetrated by division managers without the knowledge or consent of upper management. In an earlier ruling, the judge rejected a company motion to throw the case out of court on grounds that Rockwell had reported the fraud under provisions of a US Defence Department programme intended to encourage defence contractors to report dishonesty. Since it entered its plea, Rockwell has engaged in a public relations campaign portraying itself as a victim of overzealous prosecution. Company officials contend that Rockwell's case would deter other defence contractors from reporting fraud under the voluntary disclosure programme. Federal prosecutors maintain that Rockwell didn't report the fraud until after auditors were on the trail.

## Iraq, GCC plan to set up joint investment company

ABUDHABI, March 7, (OPECNA): Officials from Iraq and the six member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) will meet in Baghdad on March 19 to discuss the possibility of setting up a joint industrial investment company. Mohammed Abdullah Al Mulla, secretary-general of the Federation of the Gulf Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said here that studies had already been prepared outlining the company's objectives and activities. He said the federation had suggested that the company's fully-paid capital should be \$500 million, open for expansion in case a need is felt to set up new industrial ventures in participating countries. He said the company would be allowed to take part in all industrial activities in Iraq and the six GCC states of Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. Al Mulla explained that the activities would include the setting up of projects in member countries, marketing of products in and outside the region and promotion of industrial co-operation among the seven Gulf countries. He added that the company would benefit from recent decrees in Iraq offering facilities to Arab investors as part of the country's post-war economic reconstruction programme.

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## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1989

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)			LONDON (Beta Stocks)		
NAME	LAST	243/0	NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBEY LIFE	327/0	260/0	2ND ALLCE	840/0	842/0
ADT LTD	151/0	326/6	600 GROUP	127/0	127/0
ALD LYONS	487/0	550/0	A.AMER TRS	427/0	428/0
AMSTRAD	148/0	582/0	A.B.ELECT	439/0	440/0
ANGTYL GP	183/0	582/0	A.S.W.HLD	256/0	256/0
ASDA GP	144/5	582/0	AAB KENT	89/0	89/0
BAA	329/0	582/0	AAN HLD	412/0	413/0
BTR	359/0	582/0	AARONSON	119/0	119/0
BAT INDS	544/0	582/0	ADDISON	29/0	30/0
BARCLAYS	432/0	582/0	ADVEST	169/0	170/0
BASS	966/0	582/0	ALEX WIKW	183/0	183/0
BEAZER	222/0	582/0	ALEXON	367/0	368/0
BEECHAMS	584/0	582/0	ALLD COLL	137/4	139/0
BERISFORD	161/5	582/0	ALLD IR B	291/0	291/0
BICC PLC	462/0	582/0	ALLD LND	139/0	138/0
BLUE ARW	90/0	582/0	ALLD PART	75/0	76/0
BLUE CIRC	548/0	582/0	ALLIANCE	979/0	984/0
BUC GP	512/0	582/0	AMBER DAY	52/4	52/4
BOOTS CO	267/0	582/0	AMEC	431/0	435/0
BPB INDS	263/0	582/0	AMER TST	133/0	134/0
BR COMH	224/0	582/0	AMERSHAM	527/0	527/0
BR AIRWAY	198/0	582/0	AMT HLTHC	333/0	334/0
BR AEROSPL	545/0	582/0	ANGITA TV	288/0	287/0
BR GAS RG	177/5	582/0	ANSBACHER	78/0	78/0
BR LAND	363/0	582/0	APPLEYARD	459/0	460/0
B.P.	275/0	582/0	APV PLC	155/0	157/0
B.P.PP	170/0	582/0	ASHLEY LA	109/0	108/0
BR STEEL	82/4	582/0	AUS REE A	257/0	257/0
BR TELCOM	283/0	582/0	ROLLS ROY	176/5	176/5
BURMAN	552/0	582/0	ROTHMAN B	515/0	515/0
BURTON	206/5	582/0	ROTHMAN B	515/0	515/0
CABLESWIR	450/0	582/0	SAATCHI	17/00	17/00
CADBURYS	345/0	582/0	SAATCHI	17/00	17/00
CALOR GRP	394/0	582/0	SCOT-NEW	430/0	430/0
CLINTON	860/0	582/0	SEARS	120/0	120/0
CLINTON T	855/0	582/0	SEAGRO	258/0	258/0
COOKSON	310/5	582/0	SHELL	399/0	399/0
COURTAULD	300/5	582/0	SIEBE	498/0	498/0
DALGETY	377/0	582/0	SLOUGH ES	347/0	347/0
DIXONS	153/0	582/0	STO. CHART	533/0	533/0
ENG CHINA	334/0	582/0	STO. CHART	533/0	533/0
ENTER OIL	560/0	582/0	STORES	168/0	168/0
FERRANTI	110/0	582/0	SUN ALIFE	953/0	953/0
FISONS	289/0	582/0	TARMAC	296/0	296/0
GATEWAY	166/0	582/0	TAYLOR	245/0	245/0
GEN ACCID	967/0	582/0	TYLER WOOD	602/0	602/0
GEN ELEC	235/0	582/0	UNION	370/0	370/0
GLAXO	273/0	582/0	TSB	121/0	121/0
GRANADA	369/0	582/0	T + M	211/0	211/0
GLOBE	167/5	582/0	TRUSTEE	292/0	292/0
GLYNED	327/0	582/0	ULTRAMAR	304/0	304/0
GUARD RYL	217/0	582/0	UNILEVER	535/0	535/0
GKN	387/0	582/0	UNIGATE	358/0	358/0
GUINNESS	408/0	582/0	UTD MWSR	443/0	443/0
HAWTHORN	795/0	582/0	WELLCO	477/0	477/0
HARISON	180/4	582/0	WILLIAMS	165/0	165/0
HARISON C	180/4	582/0	WILLIAMS	165/0	165/0
HILLSDOWN	280/0	582/0	WILLIS F	264/0	264/0
ICI	171/0	582/0	WINPEY GE	294/0	294/0
			WOOLWORTH	264/0	264/0

## World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1714.8	1706.4	1697.5	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	1180.5	1180.5	1161.5	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1054.7	1075.47	1069.25	926.59
FT GOV SEC	88.47	88.47	88.39	87.03
FT GOLD MN	173.4	173.4	171.9	161.9
FT MINES F	679.32	79.32	671.52	565.31
FT OIL	1926.7	1926.7	1888.1	1725.4
FT MLD DLR	143.00	143.00	143.00	139.21
FT MLD STG	123.44	123.55	122.94	115.30
FT MLD LOC	129.13	129.13	128.68	123.40

## London Stock Market Report

U.K. SHARE GAINS PARED SHARPLY BY AFTERNOON

LONDON, MARCH 7, REUTER - EARLY GAINS IN SHARE PRICES WERE CUT BACK SHARPLY BY THE AFTERNOON, AFTER PROFIT-TAKING AND A RETREAT ON WALL STREET TODAY, DEALERS SAID.

DEALERS SAID THIS MORNING'S GAINS, ON WALL STREET'S STRONG SHOWING OVERNIGHT AND THE FEELING THAT SOME UPWARD PRESSURE ON U.K. INTEREST RATES WAS ABATING, WERE OVERDONE. "THERE WASN'T TOO MUCH MOMENTUM BEHIND THE BUYING THIS MORNING AND 2,100 ON THE FTSE PROVED A STRONG RESISTANCE POINT," ONE DEALER SAID.

BY 1547 GMT THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS UP 13.3 POINTS TO 2,086.1, HAVING TOUCHED A HIGH ON THE DAY OF 2,099.8.

DEALERS SAID STERLING'S STRENGTH WAS ADDING TO SPECULATION THAT U.K. BASE RATES WILL NOT HAVE TO MOVE ABOVE 13 PCT IN THE NEAR TERM, WHEN THE POUND RECENTLY DIPPED BELOW 3.16 MARKS MANY IN THE MARKET THOUGHT A BASE RATE HIKE COULD BE A POSSIBILITY.

THE POUND THIS AFTERNOON WAS TRADING ABOVE 3.19 MARKS.

"IT'S NOT AS THOUGH ANYONE SERIOUSLY BELIEVES BASE RATES COULD OR SHOULD COME DOWN BEFORE THE (MARCH 14 U.K.) BUDGET. IT'S JUST THAT THE MOST RECENT PRESSURE FOR A RISE SEEMS TO HAVE DIED DOWN A LITTLE," ONE TRADER SAID.

FIGURES YESTERDAY SHOWING A SHARP DOWNWARD REVISION IN U.K. JANUARY RETAIL SALES HELPED SHARES GAIN THIS MORNING.

## Precious Metals

LONDON, MARCH 7, REUTER - GOLD BULLION WAS FIXED SHARPLY HIGHER AT 390.75 DOLLARS PER OUNCE IN ACTIVE TRADING AS A RISE IN PLATINUM BOOSTED OTHER PRECIOUS METALS, DEALERS SAID.

"ONE FUND STARTED BUYING PLATINUM IN NEW YORK AND THIS TRIGGERED SHORT COVERING IN PLATINUM AND GOLD... THEN SOME OTHER FUNDS STARTED BUYING INTO GOLD," RHONA O'CONNELL, PRECIOUS METALS ANALYST WITH SHEARSON LEHMAN INC., TOLD REUTERS.

"PLATINUM TOUCHED 558 DOLLARS IN NEW YORK," SHE SAID. IN LONDON IT WAS LAST QUOTED AT 549.55 DOLLARS AN OUNCE.

GOLD WAS FIXED AT 386.30 DOLLARS AN OUNCE THIS MORNING AND CLOSED LAST NIGHT AT 386.25/386.75.

## London Money Market

LONDON, MARCH 7, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES WERE LITTLE CHANGED FROM YESTERDAY'S CLOSE IN QUIET LATE TRADING, AFTER AN EARLY MARK DOWN RAN OUT OF STEAM IN THE ABSENCE OF FRESH SUPPORTIVE FACTORS.

RATES WERE MARKED DOWN THIS MORNING AFTER THE BUNDESBANK SET A FIXED RATE 35-DAY REPURCHASE AT BELOW LAST WEEK'S LEVEL. THIS LED OPERATORS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT A RISE IN WEST GERMAN INTEREST RATES IS LESS LIKELY.

STERLING BENEFITED AS THE MARK WEAKENED BUT EASED SLIGHTLY IN THE AFTERNOON. TRADERS SAID LITTLE COULD BE READ INTO TODAY'S MOVES IN THE THIN CONDITIONS.

## Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPC
DLR	1.7230/35	1.8535/45	6.2965/95	NOON
STG	1.7210/20	3.1945/85	10.8510/8610	NOON
DMK	1.8528/8608	339.4/340.07	29.36/52	FIX
FFR	6.302/314	10.850/868	115.37/47	1300
SFR	1.5840/5850	2.730/7333	82.36/87	FIX
HFL	2.0955	3.670	112.86	33.225
ECU	1.12073	0.65075	2.07951	7.08450
SDR	1.31495	0.740526	2.42490	8.24211
YEN	128.80/90	221.66/97		
SOR RATE	06/03/1989	OTHERS	07/03/1989	

NEW YORK			NEW YORK		
NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY	NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A.B.SCH COM	33/4	33/4	GEN DYNMCS	51/0	50/6
ATLANTIC R	90/2	89/7	GEN ELECT	44/7	44/6
AAR CORP	28/3	28/1	GEN HOST	8/6	8/5
ABBOTT LAB	51/7	51/7	GEN HOUSE	8/7	9/0
ACME CLVD	0	10/2	GEN MILLS	57/2	57/2
ADV MICRO	8/1	8/2	GEN MOTORS	86/3	86/3
AEROFIL LAB	5/2	5/3	GEN SIGNAL	51/1	51/1
AETNA LIFE	50/2	50/3	GENMOT	17/4	17/2
AMERSON	17/2	17/3	GENMOT	19/7	19/7
AMERSON	45/4	45/7	GENMOT	36/7	37/2
ALASKA AIR	24/5	24/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALBANY	41/4	41/4	GENMOT	42/6	43/0
ALBANY 8-16	0	80/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALBANY 8-16	32/4	32/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	25/6	26/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	21/5	21/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	49/5	49/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	15/7	15/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	85/6	85/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	0	77/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	58/0	58/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	31/1	31/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	80/6	80/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	44/7	44/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	14/6	14/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	58/7	58/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	34/0	34/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	36/0	35/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	9/6	9/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	8/5	8/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	0	82/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	37/2	37/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	38/0	37/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	8/4	8/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	27/5	27/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	22/1	22/1	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	22/0	21/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	22/0	22/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	31/4	31/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	41/7	42/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	25/2	25/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	25/7	25/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	8/5	8/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	24/5	24/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	39/4	39/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	43/1	43/1	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	37/2	37/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	20/6	20/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	6/3	6/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	41/7	41/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	7/2	7/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	58/0	58/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	27/3	27/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	49/5	49/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	28/2	28/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	45/2	45/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	17/6	18/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	10/7	10/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	21/3	21/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	44/2	44/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	30/4	30/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	24/4	24/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	14/3	14/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	25/7	25/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	57/6	57/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	27/2	27/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	68/1	68/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	33/1	33/1	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	21/5	21/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	5/2	5/1	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	32/0	32/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	0	33/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	30/6	30/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	51/7	51/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	26/7	26/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	65/3	65/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	10/1	10/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	35/4	35/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	22/2	22/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	41/6	41/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	15/2	15/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	25/3	25/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	34/4	34/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	32/2	32/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	14	14	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	32/6	33/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	19/1	19/1	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	9/3	9/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	35/2	35/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	49/1	49/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	12	11	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	69/2	69/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	45/4	45/6	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	35/4	35/4	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	112/0	112/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	49/3	49/3	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	55/5	55/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	19/6	19/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	46/4	46/2	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	78/0	78/0	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	28/7	28/7	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	94/4	94/5	GENMOT	0	76/0
ALCO STAM	31/6	32/0	GENMOT	0	76/0



International Bond Highlights

**LONDON:** Honda Motor Co Ltd is issuing a 500 min dir equity warrant bond due March 29, 1993 with an indicated coupon of 4-1/2 pct and priced at par, lead manager Nomura International Ltd said. (PLGM 1045) In Amsterdam, Honda issued a 400 min guildler, four year warrant bond with an indicated coupon of 1.125 pct, lead manager Amro said. (XLD0 0818)

**Tokyo:** Toda Construction Co. Ltd is issuing a 150 min dir four year equity warrant Eurobond with an indicated coupon of 4-5/8 pct, Nippon Securities Co. (Europe) Ltd said as lead manager. (XLF0 0835)

**LONDON:** The coupon on the 400 min dir European tranche of a 600 min dir equity warrant bond for Asahi Glass Company of Japan was indicated at 4-1/2 pct, lead manager Yamashita International (Europe) Ltd said. (XLEP 0845) In Amsterdam, lead manager Amro said Asahi Glass is also issuing 200 min guilders of four year par priced equity warrant notes with an indicated coupon of 1.125 pct. (XLDW 0820)

**Tokyo:** Nippon Thompson Co Ltd is issuing a 100 min dir four year equity warrant Eurobond with an indicated coupon of 4-5/8 pct, Nippon Kangyo Kaumaru (Europe) Ltd as lead manager. (XLGU 1059)

**LONDON:** Austria is issuing a 100 min dir Eurobond due March 29, 1989 paying 10-3/8 pct and priced at 101-5/8 pct, lead manager J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd said. (XLIH 1208)

**LONDON:** The Australian Industry Development Corporation is issuing a 75 min dir Eurobond due March 29, 1989 paying 10-1/2 pct and priced at 101-1/4 pct, lead manager Samuel Montagu said. (XLGW 1113)

**Frankfurt:** West Germany's state-owned Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau (KfW) is issuing 750 min mark 10-year domestic bond with a seven pct coupon priced at 100.75 (XLGX 1048)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 13-3/4 1/2	12-13/16 11/16	13-1/32 12-31/32
FFY 5.80/90	6.30/40	6.55/65
PAR 8-1/8 1/4	8-1/16 13/16	8-7/8 9
ZUR 8-1/8 5-1/8	5-1/2 5-3/4	5-7/8 6-1/8
BRX 8.65	8-1/16 3/16	8-1/4 3/8
ROM 12-7/8 13-3/8	13-1/8 13-5/8	13-1/4 13-3/4
AMS 6.50/62	6.75/85	6.90/00
TOK 3.31/32 4.1/32	4.21/32 25/32	4.19/32 21/32
ECU 8.12 8.37	8.57 8.50	8.75 8.87

Interest Rates

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday:

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	9-1/16	9-9/16
3 months	8-7/8	9-3/16
6 months	8-3/4	9-5/16
1 year	8-13/16	9-5/16

BOMBAY

PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	CANSHARE	180	180	175	GRASIM	100	102	107	
ACC	305	301	307	CEN ENKA	2590	2625	2690	GREAT E	34.25	35.25	35.75
ALLEN CHEM	410	--	--	CEN SPG	1660	670	1680	GSFC	136.25	136.25	143.75
ALV NIS	9.50	--	--	COLGATE	320	323.75	323.75	GUJ ALK	65.50	65	65
ARI FAR	29	--	--	CROWT GR	780	--	--	GUJ HEAVY	10.50	11	10
ASHOK LEY	68	72	71	DCM	11	10.50	11.50	HIND ROMDA	33	32.50	32.50
ASIA PAINT	210	207.50	215	DEEP FERT	36.25	35.50	36	HIND CIBA	830	850	865
ATLAS COP	45	43	45	DUNLOP	75	74	76	HIND COCOA	105	108.75	105
AUTO CORP	70	66	70	ET HOTELS	55	52.50	55	HIND LEV	74	74	74.50
BAJAJ AUTO	366.25	367.50	366.25	ESCAPERS	60	61	61	HIND MOTOR	31	31	33.75
BAR RAYON	310	--	--	ESSAYEE	128.75	128.75	130	HINDOIL	223	239	239
BK BOND	122	123	127.50	ESSAR SP	21.50	22	22	HOECHST	690	700	715
BLOM PLAST	43.75	--	--	FOOD SPL	197.50	197.50	203.75	IND ORG	31	31	31
BOM DYE	117	119.50	120	FORBES	53	52	53.50	IND RAYON	84	85	87
BSE INDEX	655.46	--	--	GAR POLY	72.50	72.50	77.50	INDROL	280	286.25	292.50
BURR WEL	190	190	185	GLINDIA	87	88	88	INDERSOLL	360	355	355
				GNFC	45	46	48	ITC	53	54	58

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AEG	214.0	213.5
ALLIANZ VR	1765.0	1765.0
BADENWERK	187.0	185.0
BASF	287.8	292.0
BAYER	362.0	362.0
BAYER HYP	362.0	367.0
BAYER VER	374.9	386.0
BBIC	453.5	457.0
BHF	478.0	481.0
BHW	517.0	520.0
COMMERZBK	238.0	240.0
COMIT GUM	250.0	249.5
DAIMER BEN	681.0	692.5
DEUTSCH BIK	514.4	520.0
DLW	489.0	485.0
DRESNER B	306.5	312.0
DT BARDOCK	179.0	176.0
FAZ INDEX	559.64	560.98
FELDMUEHLE	324.0	323.5
GOLDSCHEIDT	393.0	397.0
HANPAPER	435.0	436.0
HOECHST AG	298.7	302.8
HOFER	226.8	234.5
HORTEN	225.0	230.0
HUSSEL HAL	471.0	472.0
KALI SALZ	198.5	196.5
KARSTADT	426.0	435.0
KAUFHOFF	416.0	419.0
KLOECK H	180.0	185.0
KLOECK W	162.0	167.5
LINDE	800.0	799.5
LUFTHANSA	158.0	163.5
MAN	260.0	259.0
MANNESSMAN	226.0	228.0
MERCEDES	544.0	555.0
METALLGES	407.0	410.0
NIXDORF PF	307.0	309.0
NORSK HYD	44.50	43.25
PHILIP KOM	656.0	665.0
PORSCHE	754.0	759.0
PREUSSAG	258.0	266.0
PIA	284.0	285.5
RHEINMETAL	444.5	440.0
RUE P	248.0	250.5
RUE P	216.0	221.0
SALAMANDER	335.0	337.0
SCHERING	622.0	624.0
SEL	293.0	301.5
SIEMENS	525.5	531.5
THYSEN	221.5	224.0
VARTA	350.0	357.0
VEBA	288.5	291.5
VEW	170.0	170.2
VOLKSWAGEN	338.5	340.0

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
C H TUNNEL	15.70	15.70
CHENING K	10.30	10.20
CHINA GAS	18.80	18.70
CHINA L-P	14.40	14.10
CHINA MOTR	27.20	27.40
COSMO PROF	3.70	3.80
EVERED IND	3.52	3.57
FAR EAST C	.98	.97
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H C DEVELP	9.30	9.30
H S INDEX	80.68	80.58
HANG LUNG	6.25	6.15
HANG SENG	32.75	32.50
HAN PAR BR	11.60	11.60
HK ELEC CO	7.55	7.45
HK HOLOCO	10.90	10.80
HK LAND CO	11.30	11.20
HK SHAN BK	7.50	7.40
HK SHAN IT	6.25	6.20
HK TELE CO	5.35	5.25
HUTCH WHAM	10.50	10.60
IND EQ PAC	12.20	11.80
JARDINE H	19.70	19.60
KOALDUM H	9.35	9.40
NEW WORLD	14.60	14.50
PAUL Y CON	1.50	1.50
REALITY DEV	7.50	7.50
S H K CO	2.87	2.87
S H K PROP	14.40	14.30
SIME DARBY	3.10	3.02
STELLUX PFC	3.32	3.35
SHIRE PAC	21.40	21.50
T V B CO	1.32	1.28
TAT CHEUNG	4.92	4.92
UNION BANK	1.88	1.89
WOCK HAD	0	7.25
WOCK HARI	0	1.15
WORLD INTL	5.00	5.00

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AJINOMOTO	2680	2720	NITSUBU CP	1580	1570
AKAI ELEC	715	713	NITSUBU EST	1080	1080
AKAI	1400	1340	NITSUBU HVT	1150	1150
ASAHI GLS	2120	2170	NITSUBU CO	1140	1140
ASAHI OPT	864	825	NITSUBU SHI	2350	2350
BANK TOKYO	1680	1710	NITSUBU EL	1070	1020
BRIDGESTON	1370	1390	NICHICON	1280	1270
CANON	1550	1540	NIKON CHMT	1170	1140
CASIO COMP	1380	1390	NIKKO SEC	1990	2020
CHUGAI PHM	1450	1480	NIP ELEC	1810	1810
CITIZEN W	976	954	NIP KOKKAN	933	940
D-ICHI KAN	3560	3590	NIP OIL	1780	1740
DAI NIP IK	903	900	NIP STEEL	934	918
DAI NIP PT	2420	2400	NIP YUSEN	905	900
DAI NIP SC	980	1010	NIS MOTOR	1470	1440
DAI NIP TO	940	940	NONURA SEC	3600	3690
DAICEL	942	928	OHRA CO	944	935
DAIWA H	1960	1970	OLYMPUS	1170	1190
DAIWA SEC	2400	2400	PENTA OCN	1220	1190
EBARA MFG	1750	1759	PIONEER	3020	3020
ETSAI	2000	2008	RENOVA	951	965
FUJITSU	1450	1450	RICHON	1140	1160
FUJITSU BANK	3570	3550	SANKYO	2220	2230
FUJI PHOTO	3210	3280	SAITOH ELEC	845	855
FUJISAWA	1650	1680	SEIYU ST	2160	2200
FUJITA CP	1900	1730	SEKISUI PB	1800	1840
HITACHI	1610	1610	SHARP	1170	1180
HONDA NOT	1970	2000	SHISEIDO	1680	1700
ISOTAN	2350	2390	SONY	7050	6950
ITO YOKADO	3690	3670	SUNITOMO	1340	1350
JAP SYN JR	1200	1140	TAISEI	1850	1760
JAPAN AIR	15900	15900	TAISHO NRM	1400	1400
JAPAN NET	935	900	TAKEDA CH	2350	2340
KAJIMA	2330	2300	TEIJIN	840	847
KANSAI EI	4780	4800	TKD NEW IX	427.10	426.34
KAO SOAP	1610	1640	TOKIO MRM	2350	2260
KAWASAKI H	905	895	TOKYO ELEC	1310	1280
KAWASAKI S	950	957	TOKYO GAS	1140	1150
KIRIN BREW	1870	1880	TOKYO POMR	6990	6840
KOBAYASHI	1230	1220	TORAY IND	925	936
KURATO LTD	1080	1070	TOSHIBA EL	1220	1200
KYOCERA	4680	4730	TOYOTA NDT	2050	2100
MAKITA EL	1510	1540	TOYOTA NDT	2050	2500
MARUI	2690	2720	YAMADA	1430	1440
MATSUBA EI	2380	2400	YAMAMOTO	1950	1950
MATSUBA EL	0	2660	YAMAMOTO	3700	3740
MEIJI SEIK	991	1000	YAMAZAKI	1420	1440

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO, MARCH 7, REUTER - THE MAIN NIKKEI SHARE INDEX ENDED WITH A MODERATE GAIN ON SMALL-LOT BUYING IN CAUTIOUS TRADE, BUT MOST PARTICIPANTS PREFERRED TO STAY AWAY, BROKERS SAID. THE INDEX FELL IN EARLY TRADE ON THE WIDENING RECRUIT SCANDAL, BUT CHEAP PRICES ATTRACTED BARGAIN HUNTERS, BROKERS SAID.

"THE OVERALL MARKET MOOD IS NOT GOOD," SAID MASAHARU SAKUDO, MANAGING DIRECTOR AT TACHIBANA SECURITIES CO LTD.

"PRICES ARE SUPPORTED BY SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT BY INDIVIDUALS BUYING SPECULATIVE ISSUES," HE SAID.

THE NIKKEI INDEX ROSE 61.08 POINTS, OR 0.19 PCT, TO CLOSE AT 31,957.94 AFTER MONDAY'S 125.24-POINT LOSS.

"TODAY IS WITCHING DAY AND INVESTORS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT A POSSIBLE STRONG SELL-OFF IN THE CASH MARKET," SAID SAKUDO AT TACHIBANA. WITCHING DAY IS WHEN SPOT FUTURES CONTRACTS EXPIRE.

"BUT THE RECENT FEELING THAT THERE WILL BE LESS SELLING PRESSURE DUE TO ROLLING OVER POSITIONS MADE SOME INVESTORS FEEL IT WAS SAFE TO COME IN AND BUY," HE SAID.

THERE WAS CONCERN ABOUT SELLING PRESSURE SHOULD INVESTORS CHOOSE TO UNWIND CURRENT SHORT MARCH FUTURES AND LONG CASH ARBITRAGE POSITIONS.

"IT LOOKS LIKE A NON-EVENT," SAID LOUIS TSENG, A FUTURES TRADER AT GOLDMAN SACHS (JAPAN) CORP.

THE NIKKEI FELL 140.26 POINTS TO A MORNING LOW OF 31,736.60 FOLLOWING THE ARREST OF THE FORMER CHAIRMAN OF NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CORP (NTT) OVERNIGHT ON SUSPICION OF BRIBE-TAKING IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECRUIT SHARE SCANDAL, BROKERS SAID.

THE NEWS BROUGHT THE YEN AND YEN BOND PRICES LOWER OVERNIGHT AND IN INITIAL TRADE HERE, ADDING TO INFLATIONARY FEARS. BUT THE WORRIES SUBSIDED AND STOCK PRICES GAINED ON A PARTIAL RECOVERY OF YEN AND BOND LEVELS LATER IN THE MORNING.

ALL MARKETS, HOWEVER, WERE GENERALLY QUIET IN CAUTIOUS TRADE THROUGH THE REST OF THE DAY.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, MARCH 7, REUTER - HONG KONG STOCKS ENDED HIGHER AFTER ANOTHER VOLATILE SESSION, THAT SAW THE HANG SENG INDEX MOVE IN A 35-POINT RANGE.

"THE MARKET WANTS TO STABILISE AROUND 3,000. THIS VOLATILITY WILL REMAIN UNTIL IT CAN BREAK OUT AND REACH 3,200," A BROKER SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED 21.73 HIGHER AT 3,080.68, JUST OFF THE DAY'S HIGH OF 3,083.

BROKERS SAID MOST ACTION IN THE AFTERNOON WAS IN SECOND-LINERS AND THEY EXPECTED BLUE-CHIPS TO ATTRACT ATTENTION DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE WEEK.

AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSG			
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY			JOR NATIONAL BANK		
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.			JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	3.75	3.60
ARAB BANK			JOR PHOSPHATE MINS		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.60	4.60	JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.75	1.68
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.79	1.72
ARAB INSURANCE			JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.57	0.57	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.25	1.23	JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11
ARAB INTER. HOTELS			JOR SELPHO CHEM.		
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.35	2.35	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.38	0.40	JOR WORSTED MLL	5.60	5.40
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.			JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00	0.97
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM			JOR. PETROLEUM REF		
A'ABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
BANK OF JORDAN			JOR. INV. FIN. CORP		
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITMA			JORADAN GULF REAL		
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN DAIRY		
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	31.00	EH	JORDAN GULF BANK	1.29	1.28
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.60	0.57	JORDAN INSURANCE		
DAR ALSHAAB DV/INV.	2.34	2.33	JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	2.10	2.04
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.			JORDAN KUWAIT BANK		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71	JORDAN TANNING		
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.55	4.53	LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.74	0.75
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	MACH/ESQ/RENT/MAIN		
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.35	1.27	MID EAST EXCHANGE	0.69	0.73
GENERAL MINING.	2.15	2.20	MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.80	0.80
HITMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75	MIDDLE EAST INS	2.10	2.00
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	MINERALS RESEARCH	0.74	0.75
IND./MATCH JENCO			NAT. FIN. INVEST CO		
INDSTRIL DEVELPT BAK	1.70	1.64	NAT/CABLE/WIRE/MF	1.56	1.54
INDSTRIL/CONV/AGR.			NATIONAL AHLIA INS		
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL INDUSTRY	1.00	1.00
INTERN. COM/INV	0.13	0.13	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.96	0.96
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.91	0.90	NATIONAL STEEL		
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	ED
ITERMED/PETRI/CH			PETRA BANK	2.60	2.62
J. TOUR-SR COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29	PHILADELPHIA INS.		
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	20.00	19.50	RAFA INDUSTRIAL		
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR			REAL ESTATE INV.		
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05	SHIPPING LINES		
JOR ELECTRIC POWER			SPINNING MEVING		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.26	1.22	THE HOUSING BANK	1.82	1.85
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.06	1.04	UNITED INSURANCE	1.25	1.20
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.30	UNIVERSAL CHEM.IND		
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.			UNIVERSAL INS.	0.65	0.68
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	1.02	1.02
			YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.35	1.35



## Dollar and gold strengthen

## Markets erratic as rate fears subside

LONDON, March 7. (Reuters): The dollar rose today after West Germany's Central Bank signalled it did not want higher interest rates but share values of the Frankfurt bourse fell.

Markets analysts were surprised when German stocks slumped after the Bundesbank provided its local money market with new funds below a benchmark rate now pegged at six per cent.

High interest rates tend to divert money away from stocks into interest-bearing deposits. Lower rates outside the United States make dollar holdings more attractive so the decision boosted the US currency.

**Higher**  
In Frankfurt, the dollar closed higher at 1.8525 Deutsche marks against Monday's closing 1.8470. The dollar closed higher also in Zurich, at 1.5820 Swiss francs against 1.5797 in Paris, at 6.3080 francs against 6.2680 in

Brussels, at 39.04 Belgian francs against 38.90, and in Milan, at 1,364.00 lire against 1,358.15.

In London, the pound ended the day at \$1.7230 compared with \$1.7215.

Gold closed higher in Zurich, at \$391.50 per ounce against \$387.50 per ounce, and in London, at \$391.25 per ounce against \$386.50 per ounce.

Tokyo stocks closed 0.19 per cent higher while French shares posted a gain of 0.62 per cent in early business.

Markets have speculated at the last two Bundesbank council meetings, which are held every two weeks, that the Central Bank would respond to domestic inflationary pressure by raising one or more of its key interest rates.

Dealers said US job statistics due out on Friday would be the next main factor affecting financial markets.

West German shares slumped from promising pre-bourse

advances to below Monday's close as investors took profits at higher levels, dealers said.

Volume was extremely limited on the Frankfurt bourse, making a selling spree unlikely, but also keeping a lid on any possible gains, they said.

"This downward move is disappointing," one dealer said. "We had hoped that we were heading firmly higher, but people still get nervous and take profit after a few days of good gains."

At 1200 GMT Frankfurt's real-time 30-share DAX index stood at 1,321.67, off 15.99 points from the previous close.

**Slipped**  
In Sydney, Australian shares slipped as overseas buying dried up and fears of rising interest rates resurfaced. By the end of floor trading, the All Ordinaries index had lost 4.7 points to 1,508.2.

In Hong Kong, however, the Hang Seng index ended 21.73

points higher at 3,080.68 points, just off the day's high.

On oil markets, Brent blend from Britain's North Sea was a shade easier at \$16.95 a barrel for April delivery while the benchmark 30-year US Treasury bond was quoted at 99-11/32 per cent, yielding 9.06 per cent.

In London, early gains in share prices were cut back sharply by the afternoon, after profit-taking and a retreat on Wall Street today, dealers said.

Dealers said this morning's gains, on Wall Street's strong showing overnight and the feeling that some upward pressure on UK interest rates were abating, were overdone. "There wasn't too much momentum behind the buying this morning and 2,100 on the FTSE proved a strong resistance point," one dealer said.

By 1547 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 13.3 points to 2,086.1, having touched a high on the day of 2,099.8.

Dealers said sterling's strength was adding to speculation that UK base rates will not have to move above 13 per cent in the near term. When the pound recently dipped below 3.16 marks many in the markets thought a base rate hike could be a possibility. The pound this afternoon was trading above 3.19 marks.

"It's not as though anyone seriously believes base rates could or should come down before the (March 14 UK) budget, it's just that the most recent pressure for a rise seems to have died down a little," one trader said.

Figures yesterday showing a sharp downward revision in UK January retail sales helped shares gain this morning.

Dealers said today's movements were heavily influenced by market maker manoeuvrings and said the FTSE 100 was still looking to settle within a comfortable trading range.

## Fed considers limitations on banks' activities abroad

NEW YORK, March 7: The Federal Reserve Board is considering restrictions on US banks' overseas securities activities that bankers fear would seriously curtail their ability to compete internationally, according to Wall Street.

Fed governors and staff are discussing whether to extend to US banks' overseas business the so-called firewalls that separate banks' traditional depository and lending activities from their new powers to underwrite corporate debt in the US.

According to people involved in the discussions, Fed Governor Manuel Johnson is the chief proponent for the restrictions overseas. So far, the Fed hasn't officially proposed a regulation, but the issue is expected to come up at the Fed's meeting next Monday. A Fed spokesman said he was unaware of the proposal.

**Restrictions**

Meanwhile, bankers are feverishly trying to dissuade the Fed from moving ahead on the idea.

Richard L. Huber, executive vice-president for Chase Manhattan Corp.'s securities business, said such restrictions would make it "so absurdly expensive that it will largely put us out of business" in securities overseas. Added a spokesman for J.P. Morgan & Co., "It could be a

very serious matter."

H. Rodgin Cohen, an attorney with the law firm Sullivan and Cromwell, which represents many major US banks, said the idea "could be seriously detrimental to the competitive position of US banks overseas."

US banks have had much greater freedom to underwrite and deal in corporate securities overseas than they have in this country. US law governing their international activities is more liberal than the Glass-Steagall Act that governs their domestic activities.

**Regulators**

US regulators and legislators have taken a cautious attitude toward banks' desire to enter the corporate securities field. It was only in January that the Fed approved applications by J.P. Morgan, Chase, Citicorp, Banker's Trust New York Corp. and Security Pacific Corp. to underwrite and deal in corporate debt on a limited basis. As a part of that decision, the Fed imposed 28 "firewalls" on the banks' US securities losses to protect the health of the bank. It is these firewalls that the Fed now is considering for banks' overseas activities.

Specifically, these restrictions require a bank to keep its securities activities in an affiliate

that can't share premises, personnel or marketing with the bank. In addition, the bank can't provide loans or credit enhancement for securities underwritten by its affiliate.

While these restrictions are cumbersome enough in the US, banks say, they are unworkable overseas.

**Environment**

Barbara Lucas, general counsel for Citicorp's investment bank, said, "The competitive environment in other countries is quite different from the US because the competition there comes from the universal banks." European universal banks, such as Deutsche Bank, which have a wide variety of financial services, are able to underwrite securities without the restrictions facing banks in this country.

Mrs. Lucas said, "Separating the securities unit from the bank in other countries makes you very uncompetitive."

Chase's Huber added, "It's the old story of US banks trying to compete with one hand behind our back. We probably could manage to live with the restrictions in a place like London, maybe in Tokyo, but in places where our business is small but attractive, such as Austria, Thailand and Brazil, we probably couldn't continue."

## Kind weather, metal prices boom are no cure for Africa's ills

NAIROBI, March 7. (Reuters): Kind weather and a boom in metal prices may ease some of Africa's economic pains, but a cure for its ills remains elusive.

"Of the decisive factors at work in the African economic performance in 1988, the prospects of good weather conditions would seem to be the only assured factor," the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa predicted recently.

The Addis Ababa-based commission says African economies grew on average 2.5 per cent last year — double the rate in 1987.

They were helped by widespread rains which boosted farm output 3.8 per cent.

**Growth**  
But economic growth still lags behind the rise in population of some three per cent a year, and is only half what African officials say is needed to put the world's poorest continent back on the road to sustained recovery.

Africa's \$230-billion foreign debt, on which repayment dues swallow more than 40 per cent of annual export earnings, is a major obstacle to development. Despite recent initiatives by industrialised nations, including write-offs, longer repayment periods and new aid, the UN commission reported little evidence of any breakthrough in resolving the debt crisis.

Africa's cereal crop rose a

healthy 7.8 per cent to 71.8 million tonnes over the past year. But Sudan, northern Ethiopia, Angola and Mozambique again faced famine or near famine because of civil war or the effects of the 1987 drought, or both.

At the same time Africa, which relies on exports of minerals and crops for nearly all its self-earned income, is still reeling from a slump in commodity prices in the early 1980s.

Export earnings for countries south of the Sahara plunged by nearly one half, or \$24 billion, between 1980 and 1987.

**Prices**  
Provisional figures from the commission point to a two per cent fall last year for the whole continent, to \$50.3 billion, though metal producers have fared well.

A jump by nearly one-half last year in world prices for copper — which have continued to soar — means that Zambia and Zaire, Africa's biggest producers of the metal and among its most distressed countries, breathe easier.

A surge in aluminium prices, which rose by nearly two-thirds in 1988 according to estimates this month by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), proved a boon for Guinea and Sierra Leone.

And Zimbabwe was finally

able to scrap plans to shut down nickel mines as prices for the metal surged 183 per cent.

Several other nations will have derived a bonanza from buoyant world prices for wheat, zinc, sugar, maize, vegetable oils and protein meals, which IMF figures show rose between 28 and 55 per cent in 1988.

**Suffering**

Oil producers such as Algeria, Gabon, Libya and Nigeria, all members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, are still suffering.

Traditionally they, and non-OPEC oil producers like Angola, Egypt, Cameroon, Congo and Benin, earn some 70 per cent of Africa's export revenues.

But IMF figures show free-market dollar prices for crude oil last year were on average one-fifth lower than in 1987.

The UN commission estimates the economies of African oil exporters grew only 1.8 per cent in 1988 against 3.7 per cent for countries without oil.

Although prices have recovered from \$12 a barrel last October to \$18, they still lag well below their levels of 1985 when they exceeded \$30.

After oil, the commission lists beverages such as coffee, tea and cocoa as Africa's most important — and, currently, least successful — commodities.

## US carrier's bank account shrinking

## We will not intervene in Eastern dispute, says Bush

Washington, March 7. (Reuters): President Bush declared today he opposed government intervention in the Eastern Airlines strike.

He told an impromptu White House news conference: "I want to restate my belief that free collective bargaining is the best way of resolving the dispute between Eastern Airlines and its unions. I continue to feel it would be inappropriate for the government to intervene and to impose a solution."

Bush said the dispute, the first major labour dispute of his administration, had gone on for more than 17 months and that it was time for those involved to "get down to serious business and reach an agreement."

**Chaos**  
The President could intervene in the strike, which began on Saturday causing chaos across the country, by ordering a 60-day cooling-off period that would permit resumption of talks.

The two sides are at odds over wages and benefit concessions that the airline says are vital to restore its financial health. The stoppage has virtually grounded Eastern and threatens chaos for millions of travellers if it spreads

to other transport companies. Bush repeated his opposition to sympathy strikes by other transport workers — so-called secondary boycotts — and said he would submit legislation to Congress to ban these actions if necessary.

"If indeed innocent parties are threatened through the secondary boycott mechanism, I will move promptly with the Congress," he said.

Turning to his first major political crisis — congressional opposition to his nomination of former Texas Senator John Tower to be defence secretary — Bush declared: "It is my desire to have him and, you might say, my right to have him."

"And therefore I will stay with it. Let's go to a vote. I'm not going to pull back on this."

**Crippled**  
The Senate, in which Democrats outnumber Bush's Republicans by 55 to 45, is debating the issue and is due to vote this week. The Senate Armed Services Committee, splitting on party lines, rejected the nomination 11-9 two weeks ago.

The Senate has not spurned a new President on a major

cabinet appointment for 200 years.

Tower has been crippled by allegations of excessive drinking, womanising and being too close to big-spending defence contractors.

Bush was asked about the allegations of heavy drinking and whether Tower would measure up to the qualifications required of underlings in the military chain of command on that point.

"I think he will measure up... he'll have 25,000 people in the Pentagon checking up on him to make sure that is true," he said.

Asked whether the lack of a sitting defence secretary would delay his administration's review of superpower strategic issues, Bush said: "Not having a defence secretary in place, no question it's an inhibiting factor."

Eastern Airlines' roughly \$400 million in cash will drain fast because the strikebound carrier must pay competitors to fly waylaid passengers and it's facing a \$70-million debt repayment within weeks, a debt-rating agency said yesterday.

The strike poses a serious threat to Eastern's survival, and management may choose to

cease operations or seek bankruptcy protection if more pilots don't return to work soon. Standard and Poor's Corp. said in a bulletin about the finances of the Miami-based airline.

Meanwhile, 2,000 employees of the Scandinavian Airlines System in Denmark announced today they were prepared to strike in support of work stoppages by employees of the US Eastern Airlines.

A union spokesman for the workers said ground personnel at Copenhagen airport would go on strike if asked to do so by their US counterparts.

"We are ready to go on strike if they ask us to," Klaus Lindgaard, chief steward of the three airport unions, said today.

**Reactions**

He added that Swedish and Norwegian employees of SAS were also prepared to join a work stoppage. SAS is jointly owned by Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Company ground personnel are members of the International Transportation Federation.

Reactions from SAS personnel came as a follow-up to SAS' controversial 1988 purchase of

9.9 per cent of Texas Air Corporation shares, enabling the Scandinavians to enter the US market.

"SAS got us into this. When SAS took over the shares we warned them that an alliance with Texas Air could be risky," Lindgaard said.

"SAS is partly responsible. It owns a part of Texas Air and is thereby part of the conflict," he added.

SAS said today that despite the present US airline unrest the Scandinavian organisation was not considering selling its shares in Texas Air.

"We are not worried too much at threats of a conflict in Scandinavia," said Keld Fredheim, SAS deputy president and manager of SAS Intercontinental Relations Department.

"We do not see why SAS employees should go on strike, we have little to do with Eastern Airlines," he added.

But union spokesman Lindgaard said that if requested to do so by employee organisations in the United States, his unions would call a strike which would take effect in 3 weeks and ground most of SAS' continental and inter-continental fleet.

## De Beers diamond group reports dazzling profit

JOHANNESBURG, March 7. (Reuters): South African diamond giant De Beers said today its profits more than doubled last year as the gem market made a sparkling recovery from a five-year slump.

De Beers Consolidated Mines, which controls about 80 per cent of the world's diamonds, said after-tax profit jumped to 2.09 billion rand (\$877 million) in the year ended last December 31 from 1.04 billion rand (\$536 million).

"A number of factors combined to enable us to come out with this pleasing result," De Beers chairman Julian Ogilvie Thompson told a news conference in Johannesburg.

**Increase**

"The results reflect both an increase in sales volumes and higher diamond prices, which were last raised in May 1988."

Pre-tax profit rose 88 per cent to 2.87 billion rand (\$1,20 billion) and the company lifted its total dividend to 200 cents (84 US cents) from 110 cents (46 US cents).

The company's soaring profits followed a report in January by De Beers' London-based central selling organisation that sales of rough gems and industrial diamonds soared 36 per cent to a record \$4.17 billion in 1988, confirming a recovery in the diamond market since a deep slump that began in 1981.

**Hesitation**

"We don't expect retail diamond sales to grow quite as well this year as in 1988, but indications are that our main markets are continuing to expand," Ogilvie Thompson said.

De Beers was closely watching whether higher interest rates and the firm dollar would reduce sales, particularly in Japan which accounts for 22 per cent of diamond jewellery sales.

"There was some hesitation in Japan in the latter half of last year, but it's too early at this point to have firm figures for these markets," Ogilvie Thompson said.

## Asian nations lead rise in oil demand

NEW YORK, March 7. (Reuters): Demand for oil in the non-communist world is expected to hit its highest level in a decade this year, according to the Energy Information Agency, and industry analysts said Asia's thirst for energy is the chief factor.

"The Asia Pacific rim is the engine of growth for world oil demand," said Edward Krapels, president of Energy Securities Analysis Inc. "It is the strongest-growing region."

The region, which includes Japan and Australia as well as the fast-growing economies of South Korea and Thailand, consumed about 7.1 million barrels of oil per day in 1988, about seven per cent more than in 1987, according to Helen Gallagher, an economist with Caltex Petroleum Corp.

Gallagher expects Pacific rim consumption to jump to around 7.4 million BPD this year. Her

estimates include Japan, Thailand, South Korea, Hong Kong and Australia but exclude the South Asian Nations of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Including these puts Asian demand at about 10 million BPD in 1988, rising near 10.5 million BPD this year, said Feridun Fesharaki of the East-West Centre in Honolulu.

Demand in the entire non-communist world is projected to jump to 51.1 million BPD from an estimated 50.3 million BPD in 1988, according to the Energy Information Agency.

**Forecast**

But the agency, which is a part of the Department of Energy, projects the rate of growth should slow to about 1.7 per cent from an unusually high 2.5 per cent in 1988.

The EIA forecast would be the highest since 1979, when it soared to around 52 million BPD. Most of the increasing

demand is concentrated in transportation fuels.

"It is the transportation sector — gasoline, jet fuel, and diesel fuel — that is leading the growth in demand," said Paul Tossetti, director of International Energy Analysis at Atlantic Richfield Co.

Asian oil demand has surged because of sharply higher economic growth and an easing of restrictions on oil prices, said the East-West Centre's Fesharaki.

"The growth in oil demand in Asia reflects strong economic growth rates... but demand is much faster (here than elsewhere) because prices are lower," he said. "In the Far East there has been a significant decline in the price of oil for the first time."

"The car population in Asia is increasing very rapidly as the economies grow stronger — up 10.8 per cent in South Korea in 1988," said Caltex' Gallagher.

As a result, these countries are

using more petrol, she said, adding that Asian jet fuel consumption also is rising very quickly.

Analysts said demand for residual fuel oil to drive electrical power plants is also expected to increase, especially in the Pacific rim.

Japan, which consumed about 4.4 million BPD of oil in 1988, was the largest oil consumer in Asia and is expected to continue in that role in 1989, consuming about 4.6 million BPD, according to Gallagher.

The United States, the largest non-communist oil consumer, is expected to use about 17.3 million BPD in 1989 compared with 17.15 in 1988, while Europe is forecast to consume about 12.48 million BPD versus 12.21 billion, according to the EIA.

Analysts said rising world oil demand has helped to steady prices by absorbing excess production.

## UK ready to introduce more Kuwaiti investors to European market

## Britain: largest invisibles earner world-wide

LONDON, March 7: There is nothing new about the provision of international services from Britain. Records go back almost 200 years, to 1794, in every one of those years Britain has produced a surplus in "invisible" trade in services.

In 1986 Britain's gross invisible earnings were second only to those of the United States. In part due to Britain's undoubted competitiveness and in part as a result of the rising cost to the USA of the foreign borrowings financing her accumulated deficit, the UK has now overtaken the Americans as the largest net earner on invisible accounts.

**Surplus**

The United Kingdom's private sector surplus on invisibles transactions in 1987 was £14 billion, some three times as large as the UK's surplus oil account. Half the UK's total foreign earnings come from invisibles, from sources as diverse as banking, insurance, securities dealing, shipping and aviation brokerage, commodity trading, leasing and investment management and from the return on Britain's stock of overseas assets.

Trade has generated an increasingly complex network of exchanges. Every movement of goods has long given rise to associated transactions in banking, foreign exchange, insurance

and shipping. Brokers, lawyers, accountants and all manner of professional consultants may also be involved.

The new feature of the 1980s is the technological revolution in computers and communications, which has spurred on activities in financial markets to growth far exceeding the slower underlying growth of visible trade.

These financial markets know few national frontiers. Their institutional practitioners expand by developing correspondent arrangements, by agencies, by branching, by joint venture, by licensing or by acquisition, according to commercial judgement within the framework of local laws or rules. The houses engaged in these markets depend increasingly on their international links.

**Institutions**

British financial institutions, notably the merchant banks, have a long record of providing international advice. They themselves are practitioners in the world's markets and are therefore experienced counsellors in matters concerning the raising of capital, restructuring, mergers, acquisitions and disposals of companies or businesses.

These same banks together with houses specialising in the business, act as investment managers on a very large scale inter-

nationally. They can tailor their services to the requirements of individual or institutional investors according to the desired priority for income or capital growth, having regard to the differing (and changing) strengths of national economies and to the relative strengths of currencies.

**Deregulation**

The deregulation of securities dealing in 1986, completed the pattern under which London seeks to offer the most competitive and complete range of financial services obtainable in one centre. Codes of self-regulation, backed by law, protect the "consumer" of the services to the investor, insurer, charterer, buyer, seller, counter-party or client.

London stands in the same relationship to other important centres of the world, as does New York to the Americas. It is the place where everyone has to be represented — the other Europeans, as well as Asians and Americans.

London is a principal centre for dealing in gold and silver bullion, in metals and other hard and soft commodities, and in the rapidly growing field of financial futures.

The capital markets in London are large and well-developed, both for primary issues and for secondary trading. The historical links between

Kuwait and Britain make London the natural financial gateway to the single European market planned for 1992. British financial institutions are ready to play their full part in introducing more Kuwaiti investors to that market.

The delegation will stay at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel.

Appointments with members can be arranged through the commercial section of the Royal Netherlands embassy, telephone No. 5312652, Adel Azizieh or Frank Mollen.

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2. Very good knowledge of the Kuwait market especially in food and maintenance equipment items.
3. Kuwaiti driving license is essential.
4. Transferable Work Permit.
5. Hotel experience is an advantage.

For more information please contact:

The Personnel Manager

Tel: 3951122 — Ext. 404.

## Netherlands trade team for Kuwait

THE commercial section of the Royal Netherlands embassy has announced the visit to Kuwait of a trade mission during March 21-24.

The mission is organised by the Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion (N.C.H.) and sponsored by the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The 16-member delegation represents manufacturers and suppliers of a wide range of products.

The delegation will stay at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel.

Appointments with members can be arranged through the commercial section of the Royal Netherlands embassy, telephone No. 5312652, Adel Azizieh or Frank Mollen.

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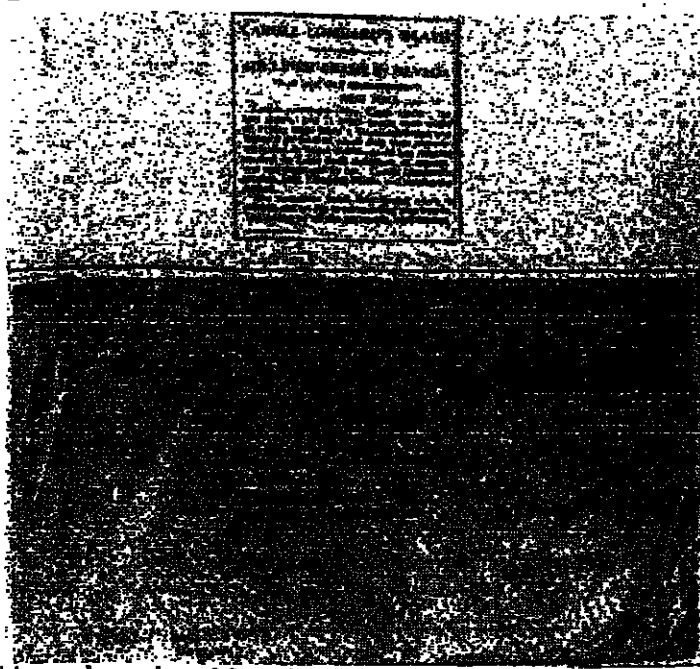
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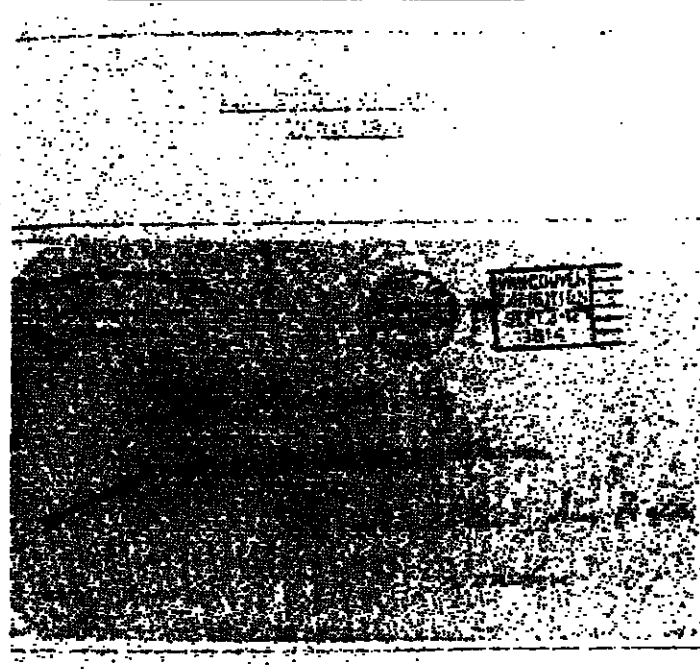
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An envelope salvaged from the plane that killed actress Carole Lombard.



An envelope recovered from the wreck of the Empress of Ireland.

By Mary Kemp

HOWARD Longden has a macabre and sinister hobby — he collects mail salvaged from rail, sea and air disasters which have killed hundreds of people.

His bizarre collection includes a letter taken from the wreckage of an air crash which killed Hollywood sex symbol Carole Lombard, and another from the wreck of a ship in which more than a thousand people drowned.

The 56-year-old town hall chief executive agrees that some people might find his passion odd.

He travels the world to auctions, junk shops and private sales collecting disaster mail. Then he painstakingly researches the history of each, using photographs and cuttings from newspapers.

Many of the letters show signs of the disasters they survived. Some are charred, others water-stained. But each has its own remarkable story, like the letter that was run over by a train or the Valentine card which went astray.

A few days before Valentine's Day in 1937 eight people were tragically killed when their plane, flying from Los Angeles to Oakland, California, crashed into San Francisco Bay.

One of the letters salvaged from the wreckage was a hand-made Valentine's card. It had been lovingly made from pink card and had a red heart and arrow painted on the front.

The envelopes which Howard collects, rarely have letters in them, but in the case of the Valentine's card there was an accompanying letter that touched Howard's heart.

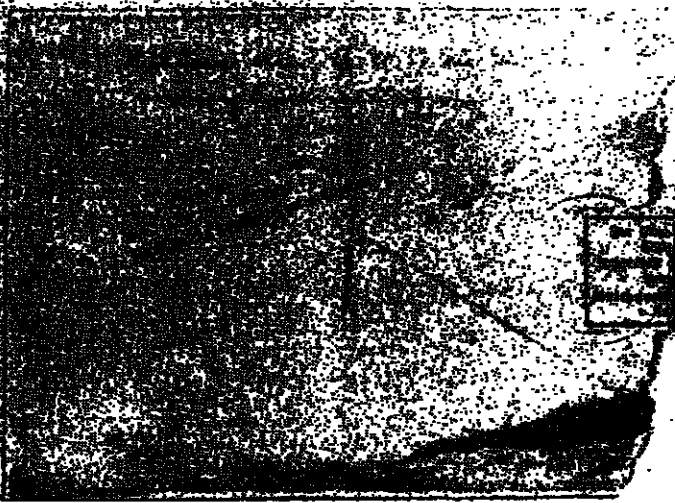
He said: "I've only read it once — it's a personal letter. But it made me feel a bit strange. I get a bit queasy about reading any private letters I collect."

Another of Howard's letters was written just before the outbreak of World War Two — and had an ironic twist. The letter, written by a man from Edinburgh, Scotland, to his aunt in South Africa, was recovered from Challenger flying boat which crashed in Mozambique in May, 1939, killing the pilot and two crew.

**Awful**  
Part of the letter read: "We knew nothing awful is likely to happen till after Hitler's reply to us. It is giving us a breathing space."

"It's the awful uncertainty and

## Collecting disaster



Two more examples of disaster mail that Howard Longden has collected.

restlessness of it all that is getting people down. Although the general feeling is that there will not be a war."

Little did its sender know, that five months later war was declared.

Howard from Hove, Sussex collected stamps as a small boy, but only embarked on his specialist hobby three years ago. So far he has 300 envelopes plucked from the scenes of tragedies.

Howard said: "I collect disaster mail through dealers, auctions and personal contacts. All the letters I have, come from the original recipient or the original sender. A lot come onto the market when someone dies and their effects are sold."

One woman Howard met in a stamp shop in Folkestone, Kent gave him a letter written by her husband on board a ship that sank in the Pacific during World War Two. Howard said: "That surprised me. It was obviously a personal memento, but she still gave it to me."

Howard went on: "But my favourite letter to research so far has been the last voyage of the Empress of Ireland, a Canadian liner which went down in the St Lawrence River in May, 1914. It had the second largest loss of life on a ship after the Titanic."

The Empress sank in thick fog after colliding with a Norwegian ship. Of the 1,467 passengers and crew, 1,034 drowned. Divers later discovered the waterlogged

mail along with silver bullion. Howard said: "It is amazing that the letters from the Empress, even with their stamps soaked off by the sea water, were still delivered."

"That is one of the reasons that prompted me to start collecting mail. It never ceases to amaze me the effort postal authorities all over the world put into ensuring that letters are delivered."

"An aeroplane that disappeared in the Andes in 1938 was not spotted until three years later, yet the mail was still delivered. They even deliver the charred remains of letters."

In January 1942, Hollywood actress Carole Lombard, wife of Clark Gable, was killed when her plane crashed into a mountain near Las Vegas. But 62 lbs (28 kgs) of the 632 lbs (286 kgs) of mail was salvaged from the burnt wreckage and delivered.

But one of the saddest stories behind Howard's letters, is the plane crash that wiped out an entire royal family.

Prince and Princess Von Hesse and three of their relatives were flying back to their home in Germany after attending the coronation in England in 1937. Their plane struck a chimney near Ostend in thick fog and everybody on board died.

Howard's most recent acquisition is a recent letter carried on an aircraft that was hijacked on its way from England to Australia in 1974.

Terrorists seized a British Airways plane in the Middle East and ordered the pilot to fly to Tunis in North Africa. The terrorists shot a stewardess and held 40 passengers for a week. But Howard's letter from the plane was eventually delivered, stamped with the words "Delayed on route. Aircraft hijacked."

Howard admits people sometimes find his interest sinister but he explained: "The letters on board have nothing to do with the passengers who have been killed in the disaster. They just happen to be official mail on the same plane, train or ship."

"But I do feel a lot happier about letters recovered from planes, boats and trains that have come to grief many years ago."

"No mail may yet have been recovered from the Titanic, but Howard's dream is to get some from the airship Hindenburg which crashed in 1935. He said: "It was a horrific crash that finished off zeppelins for good."

## Spinning yarns is no tall story for this UK housewife

Fancy a cardigan of dog hair, or a waistcoat made from your pet rabbit's fur? Housewife Pam Gardner can do it — but it might horrify your friends and neighbours.

By Alex Molloy

HOUSEWIFE Pam Gardner is an expert when it comes to spinning a yarn.

But it is no tall story that Pam wears pullovers knitted from yarn made from the hair of her pet Old English Sheepdog Shep.

She says: "People often mistake my jumpers for mohair. 'No two things I have knitted from Shep are the same colour. People don't realise, just how attractive dog hair can be."

Now other devoted pet owners are queuing up to have yarn spun from their pets' hair — and not just dogs, also cats and even rabbit's fur.

And Pam's own creations include a bag made of yak hair to a waistcoat made from a camel's fur.

Pam's bizarre hobby has also brought happiness as well as warmth to her customers. For when a client's beloved Saint Bernard dog died, the cardigan she had knitted from the yarn Pam had spun, became a treasured keepsake.

**Alarmed**

The only one slightly alarmed by Pam's unusual hobby is Shep. Whenever Pam spins fur from a cat, he has been known to growl — even bark at the ball of wool!

Pam explains: "Shep is more use to my spinning now, but when he was a puppy he was really suspicious of cat wool."

Pam, who taught herself to spin, is now in great demand from pet owners near her home in Towcester, Northamptonshire. At present she is busy spinning fur from a Pyrenean mountain dog, and has just finished some work with a family of Persian cats.

She says: "Cat and dog hair seem to be the most popular, but I always wanted to have a bag made from unusual things, so I sent off for some yak and camel fur. The yak hair was really coarse and reminded me of a bristle doormat, but the camel was lovely and soft and perfect for a waistcoat."

Pam incorporates the animal hair with fleece from a sheep by combing the fibres in with hard brushes. She explains: "I have to also use sheep wool otherwise the hair wouldn't be long enough, but I always choose wool which blends with the fur. 'I don't ask people to shave their pets, or anything drastic like that. They just have to save the fur that is shed when the animal is combed."

"I always tell people to only send me the clean bits from the dog, and most get a little offended and say things like, 'My dog is never dirty. I comb him every day.'"

Pam has had some heart-warming experiences after pets

have died, and owners have told her they are happy to have something more than a photograph to remember them by.

One customer, Marjorie Hines, had some yarn spun from her Saint Bernard dog, Max, and she knitted a cardigan from it. Shortly afterwards, Max sadly died.

She says: "I'm very pleased that I have this to remember him by."

**Spun**

"I had always wanted to have something spun from my dog for ages. It was great when I heard about Pam."

Pam advertises in her local pet shop and vet's surgery. She says: "It was quite funny to see my card advertising wool spun from pets' fur, next to all the advertisements for kittens and puppies for sale."

"But it was at least four months before I had a response and then it was from a farmer's wife who wanted me to spin the fleece of a sheep. But after a while I began to get orders in. Lots came after friends of my first customers heard about me."

Pam charges just £1 per hour for her spinning, and because she spends about 20 hours a week spinning, she admits it is not exactly lucrative.

She says: "I really just enjoy the spinning. Most of the time I find it very relaxing, and good fun too, even though my family and friends find it very funny."

Pam now gives talks on spinning to local women's institutes, but she finds that the members are sometimes quite shocked when they discover the real content of the balls of yarn.

She explains: "I'll give a talk on spinning and then hand some balls of wool around for them to examine. Then I will say: 'Now that is Labrador wool.' They almost drop it in surprise."

"Once when I worked as a council officer, I was asked by my colleagues what wool my jumper was made of. They could hardly believe their ears when I told them it was from Old English Sheepdog."

Pam's spinning began 12 years ago. She recalls: "I saw a television programme about a man who had spun and knitted a cap and scarf from his dog's fur. The idea intrigued me and I decided I wanted to do the same thing."

"So I saved a bag of combings from my first dog, who was also called Shep and tried to contact the man for advice. But by the time I had traced the gentleman he had moved to Zambia."

"I thought that was the end of that, but about a year later I heard a radio programme about a woman who had done



Pam at work with her 'spinning wheel'.



Pam shows the yarn from dog Shep's white fur.

the same thing. That re-kindled my interest and I managed to get in touch with her. She spun the combings I had saved from my dog, and I knitted a jumper from the yarn."

It was after that that Pam decided she would like to learn to spin, but again she had no idea how to start. Then, while she was on holiday with her husband John, she decided to teach herself. She explains: "We were in North Wales and visited a woollen mill there where a girl was giving spinning lessons."

John said: "Right, here's your chance." So I had one lesson and then bought myself a spinning wheel. It took me at least seven months to become fairly competent with it. I seemed to spend most of the time swearing and cursing at the wheel and wondering if I should give it all up."

"But I bought or borrowed every single book I could find on spinning and then I heard there was a guild of spinners and weavers in Northampton, which is near where I live. So I joined and attended all of the talks and lectures I could, and eventually — I found I could spin!"

Pam would recommend the hobby to anyone determined to put in the time and effort — but they must be prepared to put up with some light-hearted jokes about it from their friends and neighbours.

And while Pam's husband John doesn't complain about her spinning from dog, cat and yak hair and the fur from rabbits and camels, he does draw the line at one point.

Pam says with a laugh: "He definitely doesn't want me to make him a pullover from dog hair."

## Dream home for drug addicts, criminals

By Paul Ben-Itzak

SAN FRANCISCO. (Reuters) Former drug addicts, criminals and prostitutes are busy constructing a 30-million-dollar home for themselves on a prime slice of San Francisco property.

The recovering addicts and former hard-core criminals are working under the auspices of the Delancey Street Foundation, which takes them into a 'half-way house' and sends them out four years later to be contributing members of society.

Some have gone on to become lawyers, police officers and academics.

The new building complex is already more than half completed — with circular windows, balconies and a breathtaking view of San Francisco Bay. Its 177 apartment units and retail spaces make it look more like an upscale condominium complex than the headquarters of a drug-recovery programme.

"We have all these extra details that people don't usually do, and certainly don't do on a low-income housing project," Mimi Silbert, president of the foundation, said in a recent interview, referring to wooden window frames and flower boxes.

The Delancey Street headquarters, scheduled to be completed next autumn, is better built than most low-income housing, although the crew carrying out the work has had little previous construction experience.

The project, backed by a \$10

million unsecured loan from Bank of America, is the latest dream project of an organisation started by a former addict 18 years ago with a 1,000-dollar loan.

John Maher, the founder, originally intended to provide both a place for alcoholics to dry out and a sort of university for the incorrigible that could educate and equip them to function in society.

"It isn't enough to get them from the bottom to being a janitor," said Silbert, who holds advanced university degrees in criminology and psychology.

**Dream**

"That's not a dream. All dreams should be available to them. We want to be able to promise that all doors will open."

The foundation trains residents in several work areas, teaching more than simple job skills. They are taken to the opera and taught how to order food in ethnic restaurants.

Delancey Street also has programmes in Santa Monica,

California, and in New Mexico, New York and North Carolina. None has ever reported any arrest or incidents of violence.

Those who come to Delancey Street — some choose the foundation as an alternative to prison — must agree to a minimum two-year stay, and promise to shun drugs and violence.

Usually new arrivals are ready to accept free food and shelter but are not so willing to change their attitudes.

"It's really difficult from my end, because it's like this tug of war," said Silbert.

"I'm there tugging, saying, 'yes, you can make it.' But when they first come in, they're angry. They're at the other end of the rope..."

Silbert said that Delancey Street residents can be as potentially dangerous as criminals in prison. "We have people from different prison gangs sometimes so close to each other they have to crawl over each other's beds," she said.

Rules are strictly enforced. When founder Maher developed a drinking problem a few years



Mimi Silbert of the Delancey Street Foundation, on a building overlooking the foundation's new \$30 million construction complex in San Francisco.

ago, he was forced to leave the foundation he began. He died in New York in December, aged 48.

Silbert lived with Maher for several years and he helped raise her children, but she declined to discuss him.

"Most organisations would flounder with the departure of a charismatic founder and leader," said Maher's brother, Bill, a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. "Mimi has been able to take the ball and keep rolling."

Before the new building was begun, the foundation had outgrown its two existing buildings. Its 350 residents were sleeping as many as 15 people to a room and 90 per cent of new applicants were being turned away.

"I'd like to admit anyone who says 'I'm responsible for my

life,'" Silbert said. "Selection is against what we stand for."

The new building, rising several blocks south of San Francisco's financial district, will house about 600 people. It will have a swimming pool, gymnasium, screening room, restaurant, clothing boutiques and a barber shop for residents, and a restaurant and dry cleaning shop for the general public.

One man who said he had been a drug addict for 20 years told how he was put to work on the building soon after arriving at Delancey Street.

"I expected that at Delancey Street I would watch a lot of television and sit around having people ask me how I felt," he said. "Fourteen months later, I feel like, wow, I did that wall, and it's still standing."

By Lee Mitgang

NEW YORK. (AP) "A Nation at Risk," the landmark US report that condemned mediocrity in America's schools nearly six years ago, shocked the nation into a flurry of reform.

But three new reports describing the sad state of US students' abilities in mathematics might be even more cause for alarm.

On the surface, the reports released last week revealed little Americans haven't heard before.

Repeatedly during the last decade, international comparisons have shown US students lagging behind other youngsters in maths.

"A World of Differences," a report by the privately operated Educational Testing Service assessing 24,000 13-year-olds in six countries, found South Koreans doing best among those tested from countries that also included Ireland, England, Canada and Spain. US pupils scored last in the limited study.

**Survey**

A report by the National Research Council. "Everybody counts: a report to the nation on the future of mathematics education," concluded that the nation desperately needs to agree on how maths should be taught. But it noted that compared with Japan or South Korea, math reform has consistently gotten nowhere in the United States largely because its decentralized national school structure makes

## Poor US maths scores: a cause for alarm

national decision-making difficult.

"The report says systems have beaten us hands down," the report concluded.

A survey conducted by the University of Michigan compared maths achievement levels of first-and-fifth-graders in the Chicago area and Beijing. It found American youngsters performing significantly worse than their Chinese counterparts.

That survey also found that the American parents would be satisfied if their children scored a 70 on a maths test, while Chinese children had to score in the 90s to please their parents.

But the larger significance of these latest reports lies in two other findings: students scoring highest did the most homework and watched the least television. Koreans ranked first in maths homework, with 45 per cent doing at least one to two hours a week. US students ranked last, with 28 per cent doing that amount.

Some US educators wonder whether these maths scores demonstrate that American youngsters have grown soft on hard work.

"I think it's a cultural phenomenon in this country," said Scott Thomson, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. "We don't recognize the importance of studying maths or studying tough subjects."

"The countries that are most successful, like Japan or Korea, say right up front that it takes hard work and long hours and grinding it out. American as a nation tend to be impatient with everything, including studying."

**Bluntly**

Put bluntly: with maths, as with no other subject, there's simply no faking it. The answer's right or wrong. You either took the time at home to memorize and drill and practice, or you didn't.

But equally important, homework and a wholesome home environment are inseparable. Merely requiring teachers to assign more is like pushing on a string. Homework won't get done by the student who is hungry or unhealthy, or chronically unhappy in home environments where parents are involved in their youngsters' education.

Chronically weak maths scores, then, indicate problems not just with US schools, but with US society — problems that won't be solved merely by tinkering with curricula or teaching methods, though such changes may well be in order. It means that there is probably no quick fix for low maths scores, and schools can't solve the problem alone.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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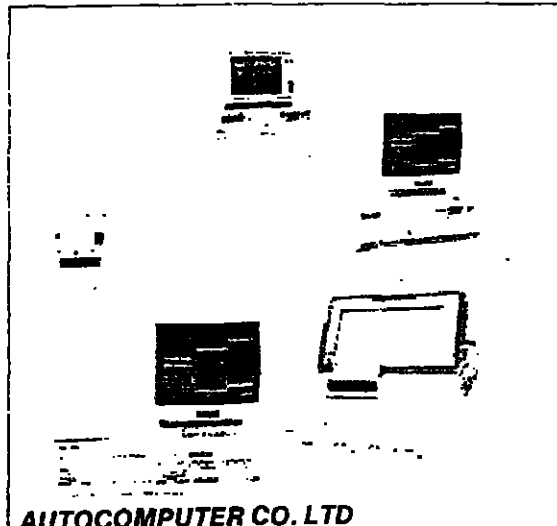
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# عرب ٹائمز

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دہلی، ۷ مارچ (ایپ) - برطانیہ نے ایران سے سفارتی تعلقات ختم کر دیے۔ برطانیہ نے ایران سے سفارتی تعلقات ختم کر دیے۔ برطانیہ نے ایران سے سفارتی تعلقات ختم کر دیے۔

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## پنجاب کے وزیر خوارک مستعفی، نواز شریف نے غیر ملکی قدامتکارانم

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افغان سرحد کے ساتھ گاؤں میں بم پھٹے، ۵ بچے جاں بحق ہو گئے۔ افغان سرحد کے ساتھ گاؤں میں بم پھٹے، ۵ بچے جاں بحق ہو گئے۔

aces of Cup season today



## Schultz and Novotna win Virginia Slims opening matches

INDIAN WELLS, California, March 7 (UPI): Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands and Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia won opening round matches yesterday in the inaugural \$250,000 Virginia Slims of Indian Wells.

Schultz, 18, rallied past Robin White 4-6, 6-4, 7-5, while Novotna outlasted Mercedes Paz of Argentina, 7-6 (7-4), 7-5.

France's Isabelle Demongeot eliminated Barbara Paulus, Austria, 6-3, 6-1.

While took the opening set against Schultz, but the Dutch teenager started putting her 6-foot-1 frame behind her big serve and evened the match, winning the second set with a break in the 10th game.

Schultz jumped to a 4-1 lead in the third, but White, better known for her doubles play and playing outdoors for the first time this year, fought back to 5-5 with a break in the seventh.

Schultz held serve and closed out the match with a break in the 10th game.

Novotna trailed Paz 2-5 in the first before forcing a tiebreaker. At 4-4, she reeled off the next three points to take the set. Novotna trailed again in the second at 4-5, but used consecutive breaks in the 10th and 12th games to win the match.

Chris Evert, Helena Sukova and Pam Shriver are the top seeds in the 32-player draw. The finals are on Sunday with the winner collecting \$50,000.

Ever plays her first match tomorrow against the winner of Hana Mandlikova-Akiko Kijimuta of Japan. Sukova's first match is also tomorrow against Schultz, whom she narrowly defeated at the Australian hardcourts earlier this year.

Two-time US Open champion Tracy Austin returns to singles play today for the first time since 1984. Entered as a wild card, she is scheduled to play seventh-seeded Nicole Provis of Australia.

The top three players in the world, Steffi Graf, Martina Navratilova and Gabriela Sabatini, all passed up the Indian Wells event. Graf and Sabatini are resting and Navratilova avoids outdoor hardcourts because of sore knees.

## Final races of World Cup skiing season start today

SHIGA KOGEN, Japan, March 7 (AP): The World Cup ski season winds up this week with the overall men's slalom and giant slalom championships still undecided, and Swiss star Vreni Schneider trying to become the winningest World Cup skier ever in a single season.

Schneider will race in a women's giant slalom tomorrow and a slalom on Saturday, and victories in both would give her 14 triumphs this season.

The current single-season record is 13, set by Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark in 1979. Stenmark is retiring at the end of this season, with at least 86 World Cup race victories in his career.

Schneider already has clinched this season's World Cup women's overall title — her first — along with the giant slalom and slalom championships.

The season's final men's giant slalom race is scheduled for Thursday and the men's slalom on Friday.

On Sunday, men's and women's parallel races are planned.

In the men's giant slalom, Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland leads the standings by only one point, 71-70, over Rudolf Nierlich of Austria.

Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, who already has clinched the men's overall championship for all specialties, is third in giant slalom with 66.

In the slalom, Alberto Tomba of Italy, who has won only one slalom this season after winning six slaloms and three giants slaloms last season, still has a chance to come from behind. He stands third with 100 points, behind Girardelli's 106 and the 102 of Armin Bittner of West Germany.

A race victory is worth 25 points, second place 20 and third place 15.

Before the World Cup circuit moved to Shiga Kogen, in central Japan, Nierlich won a men's giant slalom. Schneider took a women's slalom race, Maria Walliser of Switzerland won a giant slalom and Christian Ole Furuseth of Norway scored his first World Cup victory, in a men's slalom, at Furano, on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

Today, the skiers practiced at Shiga Kogen. No official results were announced.

A field of 75 men and 56 women from Argentina, Austria, West Germany, Canada, France, Britain, Italy, Japan, Yugoslavia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, the United States and Japan are expected to compete at Shiga Kogen.

## FIRST CASUALTY OF A SEEDED PLAYER IN SCOTTSDALE

# Curren upsets Pernfors in first round

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona, March 7 (Agencies): Defending champion Mikael Pernfors of Sweden became the first seeded casualty at the \$415,000 Scottsdale Classic Tennis Tournament yesterday.

The seventh-seeded Pernfors lost his first round match to American Kevin Curren 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 in a contest marked by erratic play from both players who had trouble adjusting to strong winds that made balls difficult to control.

The two other seeded players in first round action fared better than Pernfors.

**Trouble**  
Curren had more trouble with high winds than his opponent in the first set and a pair of double faults cost him the sixth game. Pernfors held onto the advantage gained from that break to take the opening set.

In the second set, Curren, usually a serve and volleyer, opted to stay back and rally with Pernfors.

The seventh seed, whose concentration appeared to waver at times, lost his serve in the sixth and eighth games, while breaking Curren once and the South African-born American served out the set to level the match.

"I was playing well but I was mentally drained. Everything distracted me," Pernfors said.

Pernfors got an early break in the third set but could not maintain the lead as he missed frequently on his groundstrokes allowing Curren to break back for 1-2.

Curren broke Pernfors again in the seventh game and clinched victory on his third match point by capturing the Swede's serve once again in the ninth game.

"I was more patient this time against him," said Curren, who had never before beaten Pernfors. "He made more errors than he normally does. I think it was a question of acclimating to the conditions."

### Top-seeded

Meanwhile, fourth-seeded Thomas Muster and fifth-seeded Emilio Sanchez both won their matches with ease in yesterday's first round.

Muster, a native of Austria, beat Brazil's Luiz Mattar 6-3, 6-1 in 54 minutes while Sanchez, of Spain, needed just 73 minutes to eliminate India's Ramesh Krishnan 6-3, 6-1.

In other first-round matches, Yugoslavia's Goran Ivanisevic defeated Davis Pate 7-6 (7-4), 6-

3; 18-year-old Jim Courier beat Jim Pugh 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; and Amos Mansdorf eliminated Czechoslovakia's Marian Vajda 7-6 (7-3), 6-2.

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl, the No. 1 ranked men's player in the world, plays his first match tonight as does second-seeded Stefan Edberg, sixth-seeded Brad Gilbert and No. 3 seed Jimmy Connors.

Lendl, who turns 29 today, has already won the Australian Open this year. Edberg is the 1988 Wimbledon champion and the 36-year-old Connors is a five-time US Open champ who owns a record 107 singles titles.

Gilbert won this tournament in 1987 when it was called the Scottsdale Open. John McEnroe won the inaugural event in 1986.

The 32-man WCT event on the Nabisco Grand Prix super series tour ends on Sunday on the outdoor hardcourts of the Scottsdale Princess Resort Hotel.

The singles winner earns \$59,500 and 400 computer ranking points. There also is a 16-team doubles event with the winning team getting \$17,850 and 400 ranking points.

Meanwhile, Thomas Muster, Austria's number one player, yesterday was highly critical of

his country's tennis federation despite the recent dramatic upset of Australia in Davis Cup competition.

"Our federation is run by amateurs," said Muster, after winning a first round match at the \$415,000 Scottsdale Classic Tennis Tournament.

### Killed

"The federation has killed five to 10 generations of tennis players. We've had the same president for 20 years and he's history, but he won't leave," said Muster, who along with Horst Skoff and Alex Antonitsch spearheaded the 5-0 Davis Cup victory over Australia in Vienna last month.

"Our players have never come out thanks to the federation," Muster said. "They went out by themselves and played."

"Our Davis Cup woke up some sleeping people and I hope we can make something out of it. But it's up to the federation, not us," added Muster, who said he owes his recent success to outside help, including that of former Polish number one, Wojtek Fibak.

"They don't know how to make the Davis Cup, they don't know how to make a national championship," he charged.

## Wade named to Tennis Hall of Fame

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, March 7 (UPI): England's Virginia Wade, whose crowning achievement was winning Wimbledon on its 100th anniversary, yesterday was named to the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

She failed 16 times before finally capturing the singles title at the All England Championships, beating Betty Stove in the 1977 final, a match played before Queen Elizabeth.

"My tennis career was completed by that," said Wade. And if she had never won the Wimbledon crown? "I don't think I would have spent my life regretting it, but I don't think I would have been as satisfied in my career."

Also named to the hall was Australia's Gerald Patterson, a two-time winner of Wimbledon, who died in 1967.

Wade, 43, is a native of Bournemouth, England but grew up in South Africa, where she learned to play tennis. She earned a degree in mathematics and physics at Sussex University and the era of Open tennis competition arrived two years later.

"In some ways it was the best possible timing. People ask me, 'Don't you wish you were playing now?' But the pressure has gotten more and more, there's more world-wide attention and more tournaments. We used to



Wade: achievement

have off-periods and some easier matches. Now there is the almighty computer for the rankings, so you can't ever afford to put in a bad performance.

"What's the same as 20 years

ago is that you always have to be ambitious, and always have to try to win, must have the same technique and same physical and mental strengths and the same desire to win."

## Coach suspects Johnson's drug test was sabotaged

TORONTO, March 7 (Reuters): After detailing Ben Johnson's steroids history at a government inquiry, the disgraced sprinter's coach yesterday suggested that sabotage led to the Canadian failing his drug test in Seoul.

Charlie Francis, who has said Johnson used banned steroids for eight years leading up to the Seoul Olympics, testified yesterday the sprinter was not prescribed the banned drug found in his urine sample the one time he got caught.

Francis said he was "shocked" when advised by Olympic officials that Johnson's Sept 24 drug test was positive.

**Shocked**  
"I was totally shocked. To me, right away, I thought something had to be dramatically wrong here," said Francis, who had coached Johnson since 1977 and who last week testified Johnson began using steroids in 1981.

The inquiry was called after Johnson was stripped of his Olympic 100-metre gold medal, when his drug test following the race showed traces of the anabolic steroid stanozolol.

Francis earlier admitted Johnson had taken stanozolol, but said he believed the sprinter last took the banned substance prior to Seoul in the spring of 1987. He said Johnson received injections of another steroid, furazabol, between Aug 24 and Sept 2 — three weeks before Johnson's race in Seoul.

Francis said after being notified that Johnson's A-sample (first sample) in Seoul had tested positive, he, Johnson and several other Canadian team officials met with International

Olympic Committee (IOC) officials at the Seoul testing lab.

"It was at that point Ben said: 'I knew there was something wrong with that guy,'" Francis testified.

"Ben told us there was a guy in the doping control room. Ben said: 'He was all over me'. Ben described him as a black man, medium length hair, about 1.83 metres tall and that he appeared to be an American," Francis said under questioning by commission lawyer Robert Armstrong.

The coach said the individual did not appear to have any reason to be in the room and wore no official accreditation.

"Ben said (the man) offered him a drink... he said he was near Ben's drinks. This raised the question of what was this guy doing in the room," Francis said. Johnson spent two hours in doping control getting a message and imbibing fluids before he was able to leave a urine sample.

"I began to suspect it (stanozolol) was administered to him in some way... in a small enough amount and recently enough to not have affected his performance in the race," Francis said.

### Concerned

Francis said Johnson told Dr Arnold Beckett and Dr Manfred Donike, both IOC medical commission officials, he was concerned about possible violations during his stay in doping control.

Francis said he was also told that the "mystery man" was seen in the doping control room talking with American sprinter Carl Lewis, who received the 100-metre gold medal after Johnson's disqualification.



Johnson (right) and Lewis.

Francis said Johnson's physiotherapist Waldemar Matuzewski and Diane Clement, a Canadian team official, later confirmed there was an individual in the doping control room who matched the description Johnson provided.

Carl Lewis said at least 90 per cent of the world's top athletics competitors do not use banned performance-enhancing drugs. "A very small percentage of

this sport is on drugs, but it's a percentage that is performing well and beating other athletes, Lewis said yesterday when asked about the Canadian government inquiry into drug use in amateur sports.

"I would say the percentage that is clean is at least 90 per cent," said Lewis, who was awarded the Olympic 100 metres gold medal in Seoul after traces of an anabolic steroid were found in

## Griffith-Joyner wins US Sullivan Award

INDIANAPOLIS, March 7 (AP): Florence Griffith-Joyner, who set two world records and won three Olympic gold medals, was named the Sullivan Award winner for 1988 yesterday as the nation's top amateur athlete.

Griffith-Joyner, 29, of Los Angeles, joins her sister-in-law, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, on the list of Sullivan winners. Joyner-Kersey was the 1986 winner.

The 59th recipient of the award, which an athlete can receive only once, is the 35th track and field athlete, the ninth female and the 22nd Californian to get the recognition.

**Prestigious**

"Every award means a lot, but this award is the most prestigious. It's like the Oscar of acting to me," said Griffith-Joyner, who received her award in the same city where she set her first world record — in the Olympic trials last year.

"Just to be nominated is rewarding because there's such a strong field. All the 10 finalists were chosen from a lot of other great athletes."

The voting process includes past winners, the news media, the US Olympic Committee executive board and members of the Amateur Athletic Union board is the latest in a list of honours received by the runner, nicknamed "Flo Jo."

Griffith-Joyner, who announced her retirement from competition last month to cash in on the many financial opportunities that have flowed her way since the Olympics, was named the Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year. She also was recognized as the SportsWoman of the Year by the US Olympic Committee and received the Jesse Owens International Trophy from the International Track and Field Federation.

In 1988, Flo Jo established herself as the world's fastest woman while setting world



Griffith-Joyner with her Olympic medals.

records in the 100- and 200-metre dashes and winning Olympic gold medals in both events.

She also helped the United States earn an Olympic gold medal in the 400-metre relay and ran on the 1,600-metre relay team that set a US record while claiming a silver medal.

**Converting**  
Her speed, combined with her long, often hand-painted fingernails, flashy rings and charm made her a natural for magazine covers. She is converting her success into lucrative commercial

opportunities.

Flo Jo dolls will be on the market in April, and she has made several television appearances. She also has written children's books and is working toward an acting career.

"Since the Olympics I have been travelling a lot and haven't had time to train," she said in announcing her decision to end her track career.

Nine other 1988 Olympians, who between them collected 23 medals, were among the Sullivan finalists. The AAU, which has

presented the award since 1930 in recognition of past president and co-founder James E. Sullivan, does not announce a runner-up or release any of the voting totals.

The list of finalists was selected from a record group of 47 nominees from 29 different sports.

### Insinuating

Griffith-Joyner, in a published interview, said she had never used drugs and did not like people insinuating that she had.

The world's fastest woman was responding to a statement by Canadian sprint coach Charlie Francis who said, without naming Griffith-Joyner, that she must have had chemical assistance in her world record performances last year.

"I don't like the idea that they're putting the finger on me," she told the New York Times.

"But I'm not worried. I have never used drugs. I don't believe in drugs. I'm proud I have accomplished what I did without drugs," said Griffith-Joyner, who last Saturday announced her retirement from competition.

Francis last week told a Canadian inquiry into drugs in amateur sports that several athletes he coached including disgraced Olympic sprinter Ben Johnson had used banned anabolic steroids. He also suggested Canadian athletes were not alone in their use of performance-enhancing drugs.

### Progression

During his testimony he produced a graph charting the progression of world records in the 100 metres and suggested it should have taken another 50 years for a woman to run the distance in 10.49 seconds without chemical assistance.

Griffith-Joyner shattered the 100 metres world record with a 10.49 clocking last year and set a 200 metre mark of 21.34 at the Seoul Olympics.

## Swenson and Butcher locked in tight duel in dogsled race

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, March 7 (AP): On only the third day of Iditarod Trail dogsled race, the two winningest mushers in its history already were locked in a tight duel as they led the way yesterday through a treacherous stretch of the Alaska range.

Rick Swenson and Susan Butcher, who have won seven of the previous 16 races between them, pulled into the Rohn Roadhouse 13 minutes apart. Swenson, the races' only four-time winner, led Butcher, who has won the last three Iditarods and holds the record for the fastest time.

Swenson has been runnerup three times, including the last two years to Butcher. She has been runnerup twice, once to Swenson.

The two intense, outspoken competitors used to be neighbours in Manley, but Swenson since has moved to Two Rivers. Their rivalry has grown to epic proportions throughout the state.

Deedee Jonarwe of Willow reached Rohn about a half-hour after Butcher. Joe Rynyan of Nenana was fourth, a half-hour later.

### Tragedy

Tragedy was averted just before noon as three people escaped serious injury when a single-engine airplane chartered by an Anchorage television station crashed while covering the race.

The Cessna 185 was taking off from Rainy Pass when it failed to get enough altitude and struck a snow berm. The airplane, owned by K2 Aviation of Talkeetna, was destroyed.

The blizzard winds that buffeted mushers and their dogs over the weekend died down, but the wind-scoured trail was extremely icy and hard on dogs' feet.

Swenson and the other three

top teams successfully negotiated the steep trail down to Rohn on Rainy Pass. At 3,400 feet (1,036 metres) elevation, the pass is the highest point on the race course.

At Rohn, the mushers are 359 miles (578 kilometres) from the start in Anchorage and 902 miles (1,451 kilometres) from the finish line in Nome.

Rohn is a popular place for mushers to take the 24-hour rest stop they must make somewhere along the route. The unpopulated area offers solitude that is hard to come by in the Iditarod-crazed villages farther up the trail.

A 24-hour layover at Rohn also prepares teams for the rough 93-mile (150 kilometre) run across the burned over area is an obstacle field of stumps and fallen trees.

None of the four leaders had declared a layover, and as of yesterday it was unclear whether any of them would at Rohn.

Just because a musher declares a layover does not mean it will be taken. As part of race strategy, mushers often bolt down the trail after declaring a layover, hoping to unsettle the competition or pick up valuable time before anybody misses them.

### Confuse

The declaration also can confuse other mushers who must try to figure out why a team stopped.

The field of mushers still numbered 47 yesterday, although there was talk that 83-year-old Norman Varghian was thinking of quitting. His last reported position was Skwentna, just 151 miles (243 kilometres) into the race.

Roger Roberts of Nome and Jan Masek of Rustic Wilderness dropped out at Big Lake, only 71 miles (114 kilometres) along the way.

## Larry Bird begins practice for comeback

BROOKLINE, Massachusetts, March 7 (AP): Basketball star Larry Bird began a critical week of practices by scrimmaging for 45 minutes with his Boston Celtics teammates yesterday.

He seemed rusty, tired and at least several weeks away from playing in an National Basketball Association game.

Bird, sidelined since he had bone spurs removed from both heels Nov 19, took part in all the drills during the one-hour, 45-minute workout, then shot baskets for about 15 minutes after practice.

With their next two games at home against Chicago on Wednesday night and Denver on Sunday afternoon, the Celtics plan to take advantage of the light schedule to practice on their days off.

"It's an opportunity to get Larry involved," Boston coach Jimmy Rodgers said. "At least we've got some back-to-back practices to look at."

The star forward first practiced with his teammates Feb 27 and complained afterward that his right heel hurt him. It was better the following day, but he didn't practice with the team then.

"I have no idea," Rodgers said yesterday when asked to estimate the earliest Bird might return to action. "If he feels real good, then we'll see how he feels tomorrow."

The sooner Bird gets back into game condition, the better for the Celtics, especially with Washington trying to unseat them for the final Eastern Conference playoff berth.

Boston is 28-30, two games ahead of Washington, 25-31. Rodgers said the Celtics prefer to make the playoffs, where they have a slim chance of winning the NBA title, rather than missing them.



## West Indies bag 248 runs against India in one-day international

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, March 7. (Agencies): Desmond Haynes hammered his 13th century to lead the West Indies to 248 for four off 48 overs against India in the first one-day international of the five match series here today.

Haynes, batting star of the recent West Indies tour of India, was in command from the start on an ideal pitch and in bright, sunny weather.

Before a cheering home crowd of 10,000, he hit five sixes, two of them sailing out of the Kensington Oval Ground, and eight fours, in an unbeaten 117.

India made a promising start after captain Dilip Vengsarkar won the toss and chose to bowl first.

**Setbacks**  
Fast bowler Kapil Dev forced opener Gordon Greenidge to deflect a ball into his middle stump with the total 28 and then had Richie Richardson caught at gully by Navjot Sidhu for 18 with the total 51.

But Haynes disregarded the setbacks, timing the ball confidently. He added 65 for the third wicket with left-hander Keith Arthurton and 79 for the fourth wicket with captain Vivian Richards who scored 40.

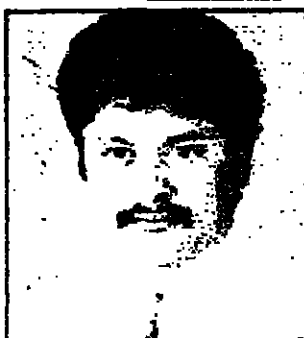
Kapil Dev was India's best bowler with two for 28 from his nine overs. Only two spinners, Ravi Shastri and Arshad Ayub, bowled their allotted 10 overs as India fell short of their requirement of 50. Shastri took one wicket for 43 and Ayub none for 46.

India were set an average scoring rate of 5.16 runs an over to win.

**Scoreboard**  
Scoreboard in the first one-day cricket international between West Indies and India today.

**WEST INDIES:**  
G. Greenidge b Kapil ..... 4  
D. Haynes not out ..... 117  
R. Richardson c Sidhu b Kapil ..... 18  
K. Arthurton c Srikanth b Shastri 25  
V. Richards b A. Sharma ..... 40  
A. Leggie not out ..... 19  
Extras (b-5 lb-13 nb-3) ..... 25  
TOTAL (for four wickets, 48 overs) ..... 248  
Fall of wickets: 1-26 2-51 3-116 4-195

Did not bat: J. Dujon, E. Baptiste, C. Ambrose, L. Bishop, C. Walsh.  
Bowling: Kapil 9-4-28-2, S. Sharma 8-0-55-0, C. Sharma 6-0-32-4, Shastri 10-0-43-1, Ayub 10-2-46-0, A. Sharma 5-0-26-1.



Mukesh: Man of the Match

## Gold Star beat PFC

IN Usman Trophy Tournament match, played last Friday at Blue Tower ground Gold Star thrashed Punjab Farwaniya Club (PFC) by eight wickets.

After winning the toss PFC decided to bat first.

PFC's bowlers Tahir (3 for 14) and Ashraf (2 for 24) got the first five wickets in only 10 overs. Mukesh got rid of the remaining batsmen of PFC in 2.3 overs.

They were all out for only 60 runs with the help of 12 extras. Aslam was the highest scorer of PFC with 16 runs.

In reply Gold Star opened their batting with Mukesh and Arif. They reached the target in nine overs and took 55 to victory. Mukesh scored 30 and Arif 27 runs. Mukesh was named Man of the Match for his allround performance.

## Konkani 7 lift AMC Gold Cup

KONKANI 7 led by James Figuera lifted the AMC Gold Cup, presented by Baltazar Rodrigues of Varca, by defeating the hosts AMC in a tie breaker.

Goalkeeper Mehr of AMC guarded his area and Mohamud displayed the most tactical game. Honorato and Nicholas of Konkani played well and Nicholas was awarded the Man of the Match award.

Francisco Carvalho, the president of Salcete United Club was the chief guest and gave away the prizes for both the teams.

## 12-ROUND SPLIT DECISION IN JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT

## Hector Camacho outboxes Ray Mancini

RENO, Nevada, March 7. (AP): Hector Camacho outboxed a relentless Ray Mancini to capture a 12-round split decision last night and spoil Mancini's comeback after four years out of the ring.

Camacho scored well with his right jab and used movement to frustrate Mancini to narrowly win the battle of former lightweight champions.

The decision infuriated the pro-Mancini sellout crowd of 11,519, which booed loudly for several minutes after the fight and threw coins into the ring.

Judges Doug Tucker of Carson City, Nevada, and Chuck Giampì of Las Vegas both had Camacho a 115-113 winner, while judge Keith MacDonald of Carson City had Mancini winning 116-112.

**Pursuer**  
Mancini, was the pursuer throughout the fight but found his range only infrequently as Camacho used his quickness to slip the biggest punches and move swiftly away.

Neither fighter was hurt during the bout and there were no knockdowns.

"He fought a good fight," said Camacho, who ran his record to 35-0.

Mancini was rusty early as he pursued Camacho around the ring. Mancini never was able to land with any consistency and seemed frustrated at his inability to catch Camacho.

"It just got to the point where I was getting sloppy and raggedy," Mancini said.

**Underdog**  
He managed to come on in the middle rounds, however, and landed a good right hand in the eighth round that had the crowd chanting, "boom boom, boom boom."

But Camacho came back in the final rounds to pull out a fight that featured neither boxer in his peak.

Mancini, 28, had lost his last two fights before retiring in February 1985.

"I feel I'm in my prime now," Mancini said before the fight. Mancini was a 3-1 underdog

but Camacho never could dominate in the fight and Mancini, who has a history of bleeding in fights, emerged unmarked at the final bell.

The fighters, who had exchanged bitter criticisms before the bout, hugged and chatted while waiting for the final decision.

The 26-year-old Camacho was fighting for only the fourth time in nearly three years and, like Mancini, showed few of the ring skills and the hand quickness he once possessed.

They had been set to meet five years ago. But after Mancini lost his title to Livingstone Bramble, the fight never came off.

The win capped a long day of high jinks for Camacho, who presented Mancini with a birthday cake at an unusual 2:30 weigh-in, then serenaded him with a chorus of "Happy Birthday."

"Happy Birthday to Sissy," Camacho sang to Mancini, who turned 28 on Saturday.

Two hours before the fight, Camacho stroled into the ring wearing his gold sequined trunks

and matching shoes and taunted the pro-Mancini fans, who responded with a loud chorus of boos.

Mancini, 139 pounds (63 kilograms), of Youngstown, Ohio, earned the biggest purse of his career, \$1.4 million for the bout, which was billed as a junior welterweight title fight by a new group called the World Boxing Organisation. He fell to 29-4 while suffering his third straight loss.

**Pro debut**  
Camacho, 140 pounds (63.5 kilograms), a Puerto Rican native who lives in Clewiston, Florida, earned \$600,000 plus a percentage of the live gate and pay-per-view gross that promoters said would put his purse well over \$1 million.

Olympic silver medalist Rick Rick Bower of Brooklyn, New York, made his pro debut on the undercard, stopping Lionel Butler of New Orleans at 1:53 on the second round after knocking him down three times in the heavy-weight fight.

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## Falcon clinch Shabbir Memorial Trophy

FALCON Club crushed Flying Arrows for the second time in as many weeks to clinch Shabbir Memorial Trophy, at EPI ground on Friday, by a margin of 131 runs.

Winning the toss Falcon's skipper Zahid Butt elected to bat and opened along with Sajjad. They scored 45 runs before Zahid was out at his personal score of 25 which included three boundaries. He was bowled by Jawaid. Sajjad was run out for 26 but then Rauf and Ghulam Haider took the initiative away from Flying Arrows. Rauf was lbw to Vijay for 39 and soon Ejaz Sr was removed by Ashok for just seven runs.

At the score of 155 for five Ayub joined Ghulam Haider and they took the Flying Arrows bowlers to task adding 107 runs without being separated.

When the allotted 45 overs were completed Falcon had reached 262. Ghulam Haider got his well deserved hundred and remained unbeaten with 105 runs which contained three sixes and three boundaries. Ayub hit two sixes to score 42 well made runs.

Needing nearly six per over Flying Arrows had an easy target but crumbled against accurate

bowling and tidy fielding to be all out half way through for just 131 runs.

Francis 41, Verold 28 and Mukesh 14 were the main batsmen. For Falcon, Rauf returned the figures of three for 28 as Sher

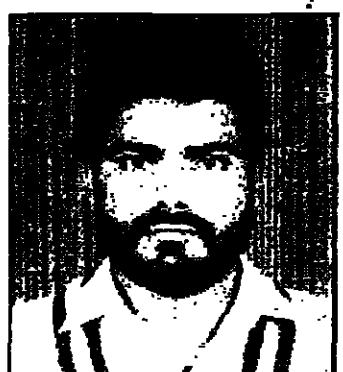


Falcon's captain Zahid Butt (left) receiving trophy from Shiv Bhasin.

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## Cantt win



Tariq: 101 runs

CANTT B beat Mutawwa and Al Qazi Club by 76 runs in a friendly match played last Friday at Sahiwal old ground.

After winning the toss Cantt B skipper Tahir opted to bat. First four wickets fell quickly, for 42.

Tariq started by hitting all over. At the end of allotted 25 overs Cantt B scored 177 runs, Tari 101, Shariq 19 and Tahir 15 were the main scorers.

In reply M.A.C. opened their batting and were unable to face the bowlers and fielders of Cantt B. Zafar scored 39, Irfan 18, Fazal 11 and Navaid 10 and were all out for 101 runs. Tari was named for the Man of the Match award.

## England and France under pressure in World Cup qualifiers

LONDON, March 7. (AP): England and France, two of Europe's proudest soccer nations, face crucial World Cup qualifying matches tomorrow that could seriously dent their chances of advancing to next year's finals in Italy.

England, World Cup winner in 1966 and a quarterfinalist in Mexico three years ago, meets Albania in a Group 2 game in Tirana. France, European champion in 1984 and a two-time World Cup semifinalist, tackles Scotland in a Group 5 game in Glasgow.

In the night's other qualifier, the Republic of Ireland travels to Hungary in Group 6.

Sweden in its opening qualifier at Wembley last October, the England team and manager Bobby Robson in particular were lambasted by the country's tabloid press.

**Dismal**  
The campaign against Robson, which started after England's dismal showing at last summer's European Championships and picked up after the Sweden game, was further fuelled when the team played without imagination or conviction in a series of recent exhibitions.

For days, sections of the British media have been building up Albania as the world's most inhospitable, isolated soccer outpost, heaping pressure on Robson and his team, many of whom

will be playing for their international futures in Tirana.

Centreback Terry Butcher, a 30-year-old veteran of 57 caps, said that if England doesn't win, "the consequences are going to be dire for a number of us older boys."

"Losing to Albania, while not underestimating them, in unthinkable in World Cup terms," Butcher told the Today newspaper. "We can't afford to drop points because there are even more difficult games ahead away to Sweden and Poland."

Albania narrowly lost its two earlier qualifying games, a 2-1 home defeat by Sweden, which tops the group standings, and a 1-0 loss away to the Poles.

Only one team from Group 2 is certain to qualify but Butcher said England would thrive under the pressure.

"When you know that a World Cup place is at stake and your international career is on the line, you tend to roll up your sleeves and get on with the job better," Butcher said.

**Increased**  
The pressure on England is increased by the fact that Albania has not won a match for two years. Of 30 games played in the World Cup and European Championship qualifying competitions, the Albanians have won only twice.

Both victories, against Belgium and Finland, have come at home, where Albania has lost 10 of 15 major internationals but

where no team has triumphed by more than one goal since West Germany in 1981.

England's hopes have been boosted by the fact that Robson can call on a full-strength squad for the first time in many months. The Albanians will be without their goalkeeper and captain, Perlat Musta.

While defeat for England in Tirana would be a major upset, a French loss in Glasgow would be a near-disaster.

The French, rebuilding under coach Michel Platini, have only three points from as many qualifying games and face a Scotland game aiming for a record fifth consecutive appearance in the finals.

France, renowned poor travellers, are winless in four years on the road. In an effort to boost his team's flagging hopes, Platini has recalled veteran defender Patrick Battiston, who retired from international competition after the Mexico World Cup, for his fourth campaign.

**Recalled**  
Another stalwart of France's 1986 team, Jean Tigana also was recalled by Platini but the 33-year-old midfielder has joined striker Jose Touré and stopper William Prunier on the injured list.

As a result, Platini has no option but to bank on an inexperienced group of players for his most important match since he took over as manager.

Scotland has lost defender

David Narey and may also be without its French-based striker Mo Johnston, who has scored in his last three internationals.

Johnston picked up a hamstring injury when he was accidentally hurt by teammate Ally McCoist during training.

Scotland manager Andy Roxburgh, whose team will take a huge leap on the road to Italy if it beats France, said all his players were "bubbling with enthusiasm."

"France will be formidable opponents and they are certainly not as bad as has been made out but they will have to be exceptional to stop us," Roxburgh said.

"I think we want it more than they do. The commitment of our lads will be the deciding factor."

But he said there would still be a long way to go, whatever the result.

"This game is an all-important crossroads in the sense that it can set us in the right direction and the French in the wrong direction," Roxburgh said. "But it is not a last-ditch effort."

Nor is the Hungary-Republic of Ireland game in Budapest, a match which could eventually decide the runner-up spot in a group from which two teams qualify for the finals.



Middleweight boxers Thomas Hearns (left) and Sugar Ray Leonard pose atop bulls in Houston to promote their world super middleweight title fight in Las Vegas on June 12. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Blue Star lift Sabah Trophy

BLUE Star lifted the Sabah Trophy after beating Qaid-e-Millat by 28 runs, in a cricket match played on Sunday at the Safeway grounds.

Batting first Blue Star opened through Salim and Ayub and both the batsmen scored 111 as Ayub was stumped out by keeper Hameed at the bowling of Sadaqat for 51 runs.

Sethi and James left without scoring. Sadeep scored a quick 50 not out with six fours. Saleem was run out at the end of 29 overs for an innings of 91 runs which also contained seven fours. Rodney remained not out for three at the end of allotted 30 overs. Blue Star was 204 for four.

For Qaid-e-Millat, Sadaqat claimed two wickets and Anwar one. Jamil was stumped for 34. Javed bowled for two, Delawar bowled for three who were the victims of Ayub. James claimed the wickets of Raza caught Rodney for 14, Sadaqat caught and bowled for three and Amer stumped for a duck. Salim claimed the most vital wicket caught behind by Ronnie Sr. of Rashid Ansari for 42 including five hits to the fence. Hameed was caught by Sadeep at mid-wicket for 19.

Mathew claimed the wickets of Javed and Qamar. Qaid-e-Millat managed to score 176 all out in 28 overs giving Blue Star a victory by 28 runs.



Captain James (left) receiving the trophy.

Man of the Match award went to Saleem, best bowler James, best fielder Qamar, best batsman of the series went to Javed of Kokan C.C. Best bowler of series went to Amjad of Siddique C.C. Best sportsman of series went to Chris of Lanka Colts. Best wicketkeeper of series went to Amir

of Farwaniya Punjab. Prize distribution ceremony will be held on March 17 at 12.30 pm at the Safeway ground.

Blue Star knockout finals will be played at the Safeway grounds on March 24 between Siddique C.C. vs Blue Star. The match will start at 8.30 am.

## Norman wins Stats match

ORLANDO, Florida, March 7. (AP): Greg Norman holed a 97-yard pitching wedge for an eagle 2 on the first playoff hole yesterday to win the \$150,000 Epsom Stats match, a nine-hole medal-play tournament featuring last year's PGA tour statistical leaders.

Norman, the 1988 scoring average leader, earned \$89,167 for his victory at the Grand Cypress resort. Ken Green, who birdied the seventh and eighth holes to pull into a tie with Norman, finished second and collected \$29,167.

Both players recorded a 3-under-par 33 in regulation. Calvin Peete finished third at 1-

over-par 37 and earned \$15,000 followed by Steve Thomas at 38 and Dan Forsman. Payne Stewart and Don Pooley, who all shot 40.

John Adams shot 7-over-par 43 to finish eighth and Greg Powers was ninth with 9-over 45.

"It's always nice to hole a shot. I had a tight lie on the fairway. I knew the ball was going to spin," said Norman, whose winning shot hit 10 feet past the flagstick, backed up and dramatically dropped into the cup.

Norman's victory in the third annual event follows Peete's victory in 1987 and Dan Pohl's triumph last year.

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## UAE powerboat race to roar to life

DUBAI: The Emirates Dubai Offshore Powerboat race, firmly established as the richest in the world and one of the Gulf's most spectacular sporting events, will roar to life again on Friday, March 17 with more prize-money at stake than ever before, and a record number of international competitors.

More than 80 high-powered boats from around the region are expected to tackle the 72-mile nautical route — and competition will be fierce for the Dh. 1.5 million in prizes, which includes cash and air tickets as well as cars.

Sponsored by Emirates, the

international airline of the UAE, the race is now in its fourth year, and is being held under the auspices of Sheikh Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy prime minister of the UAE and crown prince of Dubai.

Again this year there are two classes of boats, with unmodified versions in Group B, and Group A featuring the powerful 90 mph vessels. Entries have been received from Kuwait, Qatar, the UK, West Germany, the USA, and Australia, as well as Dubai.

Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, chairman of Emirates, said: "We are proud to once again be the sponsors of this

event, which attracts great interest both in the Gulf and around the world.

"This year we have increased the value of the prizes as a sign of our commitment to maintaining the race as the world's richest powerboat event, and one of the most eagerly-awaited by competitors and spectators alike."

Officials from the UK's Royal Yachting Club will be involved in scrutinising at the race, which is also to be observed by members of United Arab Marine (UAM), one of powerboat racing's official governing bodies. The last day for registration of competitors is March 9.

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